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Julia Batchelor-Smith... p20

## AT Local trial costing taxpayers \$31 a ride

The Devonport on-demand ride service AT Local is costing up to \$31 a trip.

Funded by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), the scheme has been operating for four months.

An analysis of the first four months, to the end of March, shows that on the busiest day, the subsidy per ride was \$25, while on an average day it was \$31 per trip.

Devonport Takapuna-Local Board member

Mike Sheehy, who put the figures to an Auckland Transport (AT) representative at a board workshop, said the costs were so high it was "irresponsible" for AT to continue

**To page 2**

## TGS show The Little Mermaid delights



Bewitching performance... Janayah Wadsworth as Ursula the sea witch. More pictures and story, page 40.



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**NEXT ISSUE:** May 3  
**ADVERTISING DEADLINE:** April 26

From page 1

**AT Local rides cost \$31 a pop**

with the trial, and it should stop immediately. Prior to the trial, board members were told the subsidy per ride would be around \$14.

Sheehy said: “\$14 was outrageous, \$25 is terrible – the overall cost is beyond belief.”

AT Local project manager Peter Paton did not dispute the figures, but defended the trial.

The “business case” for the project was to establish the triggers that would encourage people to leave cars at home, he said. The aim of AT Local is to reduce peak-hour congestion in the area.

Paton said AT Local sign-ups and usage are building steadily and it was never intended to be an overnight success.

“TradeMe had its 20th anniversary recently. On its first day, it had one customer, and now it is a national success story,” Paton said.

Board members were sceptical about a reduction in congestion. Grant Gillon said a significant number of trips were by single users, which was not reducing traffic numbers at all.

Member Jan O’Connor said another fault of the AT Local trial was that it is restricted

to smartphone users, who have to download an app to sign up. Many potential older users would prefer to buy vouchers.

Moreover, with the amount being spent on the trial, NZTA “could afford to buy people smartphones”, so they could join up, O’Connor said.

**Three-quarters of AT Local users are women**

Women made up 76 per cent of people using the Devonport AT Local ride-share scheme in its first four months of operation.

To the end of March, 1900 people had signed up to use the mobile phone app needed to book rides, project manager Peter Paton told a Devonport-Takapuna Local Board workshop.

In the first four months, 7700 rides were recorded. Around 38 per cent of these rides were shared.

Most of the rides were booked from patrons south of the Waitemata Golf Course and 92 per cent were to and from the Devonport or Bayswater ferry terminals.

On the busiest day so far, 163 rides were logged, Paton said.

When the service started, most of the rides were in the afternoons. But over time, morning rides were becoming more common, he said.

The average ride was six minutes. In AT Local’s rating system, 96 per cent of customers had given the service five stars, Paton said.

The service is an on-demand, corner-to-corner, ride-share service – which is similar but not identical to Uber. Most users would have to walk around 200m to use the service, Paton said.

One of the problems with the service had been its 30-minute ride-booking window. This has now been changed to a 15-minute window, Paton said.

More marketing is to be done, including: on-van advertising; digital marketing; and staff at the Devonport ferry building handing out brochures.

**Flagstaff Editor shortlisted for national award**

Devonport Flagstaff managing editor Rob Drent is a finalist in the Best Community Journalist section of the 2019 national Voyager Media Awards.

It is the third time in four years Drent has been nominated for the award. He won it in 2018.

His entry included stories on an Ironman competitor who ran down a burglar, a massive land settlement across the Devonport peninsula, budget overruns in the Devonport Wharf construction, and a feature on two semi-professional squash players.

Former NZ Herald photographer Brett Phibbs, another local, is a finalist in best news picture, best photo portrait, best feature portfolio and photographer of the year.

Winners are announced on 17 May.

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# Devonport Anzac Day official service sacrificed

For the first time in a century, war veterans will not march down Victoria Rd and neither will there be a solemn service of remembrance at the Devonport cenotaph.

Police instigated the cancellation of Devonport's Anzac Day ceremonies due to security concerns in the wake of the Christchurch terror attack.

At a meeting of the three North Shore RSA presidents and police, it was decided to hold just one service in Browns Bay.

"I was disappointed, of course," said Devonport RSA president Howard Mace. "But we have to be pragmatic, and the advice we received from police is Browns Bay was the best place to secure."

The Devonport cenotaph is surrounded by several roads, which makes security more problematic, Mace said.

The Anzac Day parades are of more concern to police than gatherings, such as concerts, because they take place on the streets and in public places, he said.

"You could have an idiot terrorist drive a truck through it."

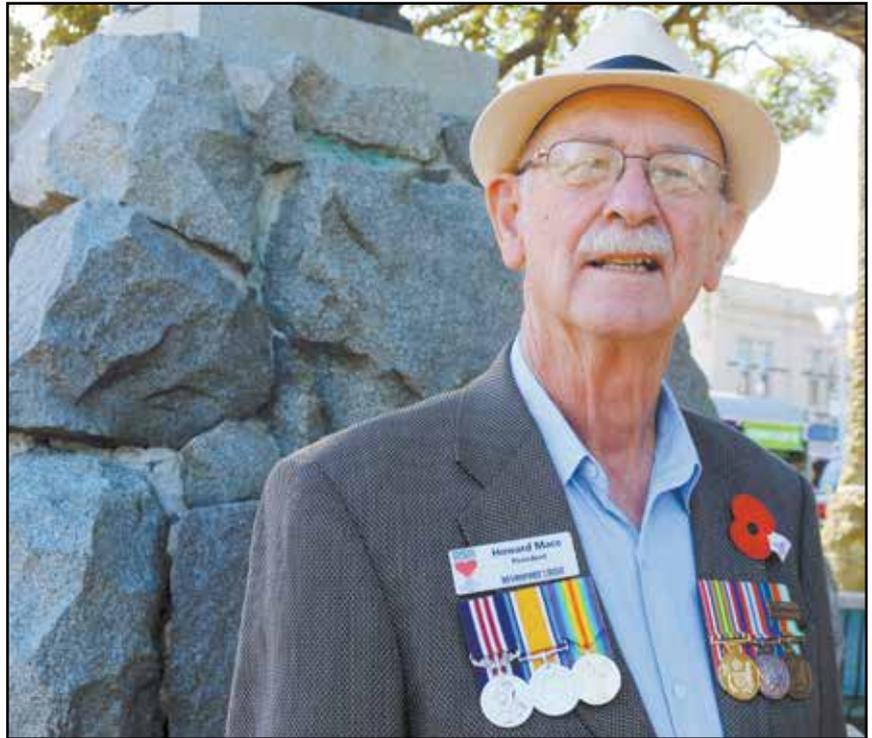
Asked why defence forces couldn't provide security, Mace said it wasn't just a question of personnel. Auckland Council would also need to be involved, for example, providing concrete barricades and other barriers.

An informal gathering will still take place at the Devonport RSA at Devonia Hall, 61 Victoria Rd at 10am. It has capacity for 150 people.

"The Devonport RSA will hold a small service inside, because it can be secured," Mace said. The Navy band will be missing, but a Navy bugler and chaplain will attend, with Mace also saying a few words.

The Devonport cenotaph will still have a rack for floral wreaths and poppies.

Anzac Day services and commemorations



**Philosophical... Devonport RSA president Howard Mace says the sacrifice has been made to ensure the safety of the community**

have been held in New Zealand since 1916, when the Anzac Day holiday was gazetted.

Mace is unsure when the first Devonport service was held, but it was almost certainly before the Devonport RSA was set up in 1927.

Devonport's druid Chris Mullane will act as MC and two Takapuna Grammar students will

speak at the Browns Bay ceremony.

A dawn parade will leave from the Browns Bay police station at 5.30am and proceed to the beach cenotaph. At 8.30am, the civic service will start with a second parade following the same route. People are advised to go early, as there will be road blocks and security checks.

## Independent Devonport remembrance



Our heads may be bowed, we won't buckle  
Devonport gathering at 10am April 25.  
Bring your own flowers.

A pair of community mavericks are organising an informal Anzac Day service at the Devonport cenotaph in defiance of the cancellation of the official event.

Auckland Council agreed to cancel the long-standing Devonport ceremony in favour of a single North Shore-wide service at Browns Bay, due to security concerns following the Christchurch terror attack.

However, Simon Gundry and Roger Brittenden felt Devonport should have been chosen as a site, especially as it is home to the New Zealand Navy.

"Browns Bay hadn't even been invented when Devonport boys went off to the World War," Brittenden said.

A low-key service at the Devonport war memorial, outside the library, is planned at 10am, with no speeches or band.

"It's just a way for people to get together and have a moment's silence and put flowers on the cenotaph and show our respect," Brittenden said.

Gundry said they initiated the gathering because people were disappointed and angry.

"I'm certainly not going to be told not to go there because there's not a police presence," he said.

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# DevonportProperty.nz Report — March 2019

## Harvest time in the property market

The summer season is now behind us and, in some ways, it feels like it will not be remembered as a ‘golden summer’ for property. Having said that, I feel we are all too often conditioned to the belief that the property market should be hyperactive, with prices spiralling ever-upwards. The reality is today’s market is a great market. It’s a normal market.

Buyers have a great selection. Sure, they are judicious about what to purchase and what to offer, but with such attractive mortgage rates they are not slow in coming forward.

Sellers on the other hand are confident to bring their property to the market, with realistic expectations around price, which reflects the state of the market.

The key number in this month’s report remains the inventory of properties for sale. From a high at the end of February of 79, one month later that’s risen to 83,



with the addition of 23 new properties advertised in March, contributing to a total of 84 new listings coming onto the market since the start of the year. This compares with 68 for the same period a year ago.

This growing inventory can best be seen in this month’s chart with a widening gap between new listings and sales. This began at the start of spring

last year and has widened through the summer.

There are signs though, as the chart highlights, that the gap may be narrowing as sales slowly edge up and new listings ease. Certainly, the early weeks of April have seen very few new listings hit the market.

The sales price of houses across Devonport eased to \$1.7m, a fall of 8% compared to last year. Though this compares well to house prices across the wider North Shore, where prices are down 12.4% at \$1m.

The key to attaining the best price for your house in today’s market is a comprehensive marketing programme, covering both print and digital, coupled with a deep understanding of the local property market, and the opportunity to negotiate the best deal for you. If that’s what you want to achieve for your next sale, give me a call.

As at 31 March 2019	PROPERTIES				PRICES	
	Properties on the market 31 March	Properties Listed (Jan/Feb/Mar)	Properties Sold (Jan/Feb/Mar)	Variance in moving annual total sales	Median Sale Price (\$M) 3 months to Mar	Variance compared to last year
All Properties	83	84	44	▼ -17%	\$1.457M	▼ -8%
Houses	66	64	37	▼ -16%	\$1.700M	▼ -8%
Units	3	5	3	▼ -15%	\$772,000	▼ -1%
T/houses Apartments	14	15	4	▼ -23%		



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# Ngataringa Tennis Club wins Chelsea Cup for the first time

Ngataringa Tennis Club has won the prestigious Chelsea Cup for the first time in its 90-plus-year history.

It beat Browns Bay 6-1 at the Albany Tennis Park last Friday to take the title.

It was a nervous lead-up to the final, as Ngataringa's top player, Giles de Guoy, was out injured. But by a quirk of fate, Browns Bay, also fronted without its number one, Wesley Whitehouse, who was injured as well.

Ngataringa went close to winning the Chelsea Cup in 2018, losing to Browns Bay.

Ngataringa Captain Lucien Lemay said: "We are very happy for the club."

It had been a real team effort, with a number of players competing over the season, not just the final.

The Chelsea Cup – the North Harbour championship that attracts some of the best players in the country – will be displayed at Ngataringa Tennis Club for the next year if anyone wants to see it, Lemay said.

The full Ngataringa Chelsea Cup squad was: Captain Lucien Lemay, Sven van Touw, Max Dickey, Jack Loutit, Phillipe Douchet, Gilles de Gouy, Tama Willis, Dan Cooner and Eddie Biss.

**The Chelsea Cup at 'home'... Lucien Lemay (above) with the trophy outside Ngataringa Tennis Club**

**Chelsea champions... Ngataringa's finals team (from left to right): Captain Lucien Lemay, Sven van Touw, Max Dickey and Jack Loutit, with coach Phillipe Douchet**



## The art of budgeting

One of the big issues we are seeing in the market for home buyers is the affordability gap in house prices vs incomes. Essentially, without foreign buyers and with tighter credit, house prices have begun to soften a little, but domestic incomes are not really increasing at all. There is little anyone can do about the house prices, and often little they can do about their income.

But one thing they can do to improve their financial position is have a specific goal-orientated budget. By cutting out loose and unnecessary spending, you are effectively getting a pay rise. And with a targeted approach, that will help improve the affordability gap.

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# Gull retro design deemed a dead duck by council

Retro, heritage designs for a proposed petrol station including 60/70s signage and a villa-like IT shed were set aside by Gull after a lack of interest from Auckland Council.

Gull wanted “something different, older and unique. No other fuel company would even contemplate moving away from their one-size-fits-all brand,” its property and capital manager Karl Mischewski said.

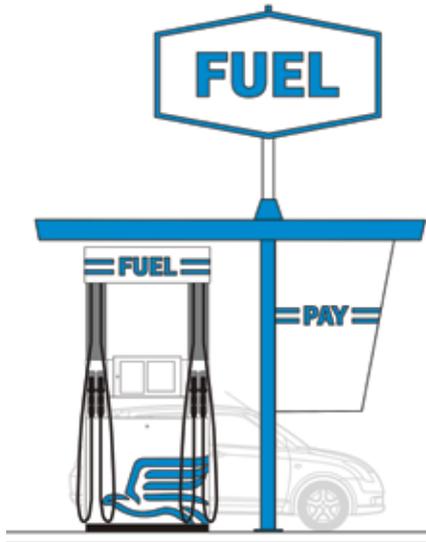
“Following this preliminary concept, we suggested we actually revisit the original Gull branding from the 60s/70s to acknowledge our history, rather than retro for the sake of retro.

“We could have done a heritage wall of interest on-site. We even offered to make our IT shed look like a mini weatherboard-looking villa.

“Sadly, we have gone no further with our idea at Devonport due to lack of interest from council.”

Gull was prepared to revisit the retro concept if “residents would support us more and not oppose our proposal.

“However, the inescapable fact is some people are simply NIMBYs and will never be happy regardless of what we do, even though zoning provides for our proposed



**Cheltenham retro... one of the designs Gull felt would suit the area**

activity.

“The Cheltenham site in fact operated successfully as a service station for over 25

years,” Mischewski said.

Gull understands residents’ concerns and has tried to address them, he said. For example, by putting forward the one-off heritage design dating back to the first Gull site opened in New Zealand.

Noise and lighting assessments for the retro design conform with council rules, and pedestrian safety has been addressed.

So have environmental issues relating to fuel tanks, which, these days, are double-lined fibreglass with state-of-the-art electronic tank gauging and leak-detection monitoring and reconciliation systems.

The proposed service station is a far cry from the single-skinned steel tanks, with manual tank dips of the past.

Gull had tried multiple times to secure land on Lake Rd, without success, Mischewski said.

If Gull is unsuccessful with its application, the Cheltenham site will probably be sold to developers and the land would most likely become a multi-storey housing development.

Local residents would also miss out on Gull’s discounted fuel and be forced to pay full price up Lake Rd, he said.

## Residents prepare to fight Gull over service station

Cheltenham residents are preparing for a lengthy battle, as plans for a Gull service station on Vauxhall Rd are expected to go to a hearing in May or June.

Matt Meikle attended one of two residents’ meetings, where people were preparing for the upcoming consent hearing and are ready to go to the Environment Court, if necessary.

“It’s just ludicrous putting it [the station] in a historic residential suburb full of wooden villas,” Meikle said.

He is worried about safety – with children, in particular, using the pedestrian crossing near the station – and the environment.

Meikle is opposed to 100,000 litres of petrol and diesel being stored 80 metres

from a protected coastline.

He would like to see a petrol station in Devonport, but thought Lake Rd would be more suitable.

In June last year, Gull applied for the resource consent to build a 24-hour, seven-day service station at the Tainui Motors site.

Gull’s proposed service station would have six petrol dispensers and Gull canopies, with an estimated 40 visitors an hour.

Devonport Heritage is opposing the station. Chairperson Trish Deans said: “It’s the 24-hour nature of the station and the impact on neighbours of noise, lighting and traffic. Gull’s proposal says there will be a six-fold increase in traffic.”

Under the Auckland Unitary Plan, Cheltenham is a “special character” area, which

means new developments need to reflect the area’s history.

Landscaping in front of the proposed station, along Vauxhall Rd, would have helped offset the visual effects, Deans said.

“They want to put their brand on the site, rather than comply with the conditions that they should follow in a heritage area.”

The proposed 8m Gull sign doesn’t accord with planning rules, which specify such large signs cannot be within 30m of listed buildings.

Three heritage B-listed properties are located across the road, as well as a heritage A-listed clock.

Of 90 submissions on the resource consent, 62 were against and 28 in support, the council said.

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# North Shore continues good start with 1-1 draw



**From defence to attack... Adam New (above right) puts in a cross, while Marko Memodovic (right), scored Shore's only goal, narrowly missed with this shot in the second half**



North Shore United continued its solid start to the Northern League football season with a 1-1 draw against high-flying Eastern Suburbs at Allen Hill Stadium last Saturday.

Shore has won one game and drawn two so far this season, to be fifth-placed on the table.

Eastern Suburbs went into last Saturday's match having won its first two games and were perhaps the favourites to win the game, with Shore fresh in the Northern League after gaining promotion in 2018.

Shore plays two matches in the next week: at home to Melville United on Good Friday and away to Western Springs on April 25.

## Tax deductions for client gifts

An issue I commonly get asked about is the tax deductibility of gifts of food and drink made to clients. There is often confusion as to whether this expenditure falls into the entertainment rules, and is only 50% tax deductible, or is fully tax deductible as a gift.

Inland Revenue has published the correct position on its website, and if you're struggling to sleep at night, I recommend you read it. This will solve your problem in no time!

<https://www.ird.govt.nz/technical-tax/op-positions/op-position-deduct-expend-food-drink-gifts.html>

*However, to summarise, the rules are:*

Any gift given that consists of food or drink is only 50% tax deductible and any gift that is not food or drink is 100% tax deductible. In cases where a gift is made up of food, drink and other non-eatable items, the cost of each item must be split out and tax deduction rules as above must be applied.

In conclusion, if you want your client gifts to be 100% tax deductible, then give non-food or non-drink items.

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# Devonport artist's quest inspires Anzac Day doco

Devonport sculptor Helen Pollock's work is the subject of a documentary, screening for the first time on Anzac Day.

*Between the Memory and the Silence* describes how Pollock has pulled together "wisps of memory", along with voracious reading on World War I, to imagine her father's experience of war and help fuel a body of work.

Pollock was approached by filmmaker David Blyth about seven months ago, and production happened quickly after that.

The film weaves interviews with Pollock in her Devonport workshop with footage of works being built in her backyard and exhibited.

Blyth and Pollock both travelled to Le Quesnoy, France, in November, for the opening of the New Zealand Memorial Museum, when Pollock's *Victory Medal* was installed in the forecourt.

*Victory Medal* was first exhibited in a disused bunker at Fort Takapuna in 2010, then toured New Zealand before being taken to Arras in northern France and Le Quesnoy, and Messines in Belgium, for World War I centenary celebrations.

It features a battalion of 36 battle-worn feet, cast in New Zealand clay, standing on a rusty metal medal in four pieces.

"They are all ripped and torn, and fired under intense heat, as a metaphor for the real suffering that did happen," Pollock says.

All New Zealand soldiers, including Pollock's father, received a victory medal on returning to New Zealand from World War I. Pollock wanted to convey that all soldiers were heroes, especially as they worked in teams.

Other works including *As Above, So Below*, which is on show at the Navy Museum, feature in the documentary.

The film opens with footage showing her father, Bill Young, on a South Island moun-



**Casting call... Sculptor Helen Pollock was interviewed in her Devonport workshop for an Anzac Day documentary.**

taineering expedition. Pollock recalls him as more than "outdoorsy".

"He was very intellectual, reading a lot. He was quiet and thoughtful."

After the war, he worked in Dunedin as a tailor, sewing and crafting, which his daughter believes influenced her creative career.

Young was cynical about the war and fairly tight-lipped about it, but he had a friend who had been a soldier, and Pollock always

listened when they talked.

Young died at the age of 59, when Pollock was 9.

As an adult, she wanted to find out more, but her father's newspaper clippings, postcards and medals had disappeared.

Pollock's thirst for knowledge started the journey captured in the documentary.

*Between the Memory and the Silence* screens on Sky TV on 25 April at 8.30pm.

## COMMEMORATING



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# Police investigate suspicious behaviour around schools

Police are investigating four reports of a man acting suspiciously around children from Belmont Intermediate and Belmont Primary schools, during the first week of April.

Three approaches to children, walking alone to or from school, had been reported to Belmont Intermediate, said principal Nick Hill, in an email to parents.

In each case, a white Toyota van pulled up alongside the child and, in one instance, the sole occupant allegedly got out and walked closely behind the child.

Children should walk to school in pairs or small groups, Hill's email said.

Meanwhile, a man walked onto Belmont Primary's grounds at interval on 3 April, but left when he saw a teacher on duty.

Principal Bruce Cunningham said it was probably a one-off.

It was a good reminder for parents to go over safety procedures with their children, but it shouldn't prompt hysteria, he said.

"In reality, incidents like this are highly rare," Cunningham said.

However, he is dismayed parents were dropping children off and walking to school with them, when the school had done so much work to promote independence.

It would be better for children to walk with a friend, he said, and parents could remind children not to get into cars with strangers.

Police confirmed they were investigating and encouraged people to call 111 if they saw anyone behaving suspiciously or if they felt unsafe.

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**By Rob Drent**

The decision to can many Anzac Day services around Auckland, due to an increased security threat posed in the aftermath of the Christchurch mosques massacre, is a poor one.

Devonport's Anzac Day Parade – which draws hundreds each year and dates back a century or so – is one of the services that has been taken off the agenda.

The situation is made worse for locals wanting to attend a remembrance event, with the service in nearby Takapuna gone as well.

Obviously the police have what they believe are sound reasons to consolidate services to offer the public greater safety.

I don't particularly agree with them. Why would Anzac Day services be a greater target than any other gathering of people? Why not cancel or consolidate all Super Rugby matches in the Christchurch aftermath, for example?

The best way to respond to the events in Christchurch is for life to return to normal as quickly as possible.

It might be overly simplistic, but with the very nature of Anzac services including a multitude of defence personnel, couldn't some of our Navy and Army people be deployed at venues like Devonport to beef up security?

The climate of fear and changes to events like Anzac Day parades – a fixture on the New Zealand calendar – is exactly the sort of response the perpetrator of the Christchurch attack is hoping for.



cars off the road and make their lives a bit more comfortable.

A local board workshop was told there wasn't much money to promote the AT Local service. If the trial was to be given a serious chance of success, surely proper advertising and promotion should have been a priority.

Auckland Council sign pollution continues around Devonport. Auckland Transport is a perennial offender, and now Auckland Council has got in on the act, with multiple large signs around Waitemata Golf course alerting the public to the fact it is parkland and they are able to walk through it.

Many locals don't know this fact, so some signage could be seen as appropriate. But half a dozen signs is overkill.

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2 1 1 1

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**Devonport 10 North Ave**

3 2 2 3 1

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- 665m2 section a short walk to two beaches
- Vendors motivation to sell is high!

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**Devonport 6a Handley Avenue**

4 2 1 1 2

**Don't Judge A Book By It's Cover**  
 Freehold Narrow Neck apartment style home but without the body corp! This lock up and leave, stylish home was built by the owners 30 years ago and meticulously cared for since. Renovated in 2010 to the updated building code they now offer you the opportunity to live in this desirable sea-side suburb without breaking the bank. This immaculate property must be sold!

**For Sale \$1,585,000**  
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**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 \$769,000**  
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**Devonport 120a Vauxhall Road**

3 1 1 1

**The Rose Between Two Beaches**  
 • Affordable buying a short walk to Cheltenham Beach and shops  
 • 1940s brick beauty on 423m2 land  
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 • Low maintenance, easy to live in  
 • 6 years of ownership coming to an end!

**For Sale \$1,269,000**  
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**Devonport 13 Grahame Street**

4 3 3 1 2

**Grand Colonial Family Big 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, three 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.

**For Sale \$2,090,000**  
**View** by appointment  
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**Gary Potter & Glenice Taylor**  
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"Legendary result, thank you Kurt Piper from New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty for an outstanding auction campaign. We were thoroughly impressed with the time and effort you put into helping us get the property prepared, the marketing was brilliant and the communication along the way was over and above our expectations. We would highly recommend Kurt Piper to anyone looking to sell their home."

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## Devonport's triathlete GP contemplates next lap

After almost four decades of practising family medicine in Devonport, Dr Grant Smith was inundated with messages from patients on his retirement.

Patients from five generations of one family are among those he has farewelled after 38 years in the job, along with plenty of others where he has seen four generations come through his surgery.

Smith offered obstetric care until 15 years ago, so met some of his patients when they were born.

"I have had lots of very very nice messages and cards from patients, reminding me of delivering their children," he says.

As well as being well known locally as a GP, Smith has made his mark as a triathlete.

Over the past two decades, he has competed in "hundreds" of triathlons, including a Half Ironman.

A keen sportsman in his youth, he took up triathlons later in life as something he could do in his own time.

"If I do things, I tend to do them competitively, so I aligned my training with the lead-up to the worldwide competitions. I'd be training 15 hours a week. I can't do that all the time."

At age 67, he still has more in the tank. "When I hit 70, the world championships will be in Bermuda. I am thinking about doing another one. It will take me two years to build up to it."

He and wife Maria Sardi also enjoy swimming, walking and cycling together, something they plan to do plenty of over the next few months.

Smith had one day at home in Bayswater, after finishing up at Devonport Family Medicine on 29 March.

Then he and Sardi headed to their cherry orchard in the South Island, near Clyde. His brothers and their wives were joining them to start harvesting grapes from a vineyard on the property.

Smith has overseen the planting of 6000 trees on the 250-hectare property, along with the vineyard.

After a couple of weeks in the South Island, Smith and Sardi are heading to Europe for two months, where Smith will study Spanish in Seville, in order to keep up with Colombian Sardi and her family.

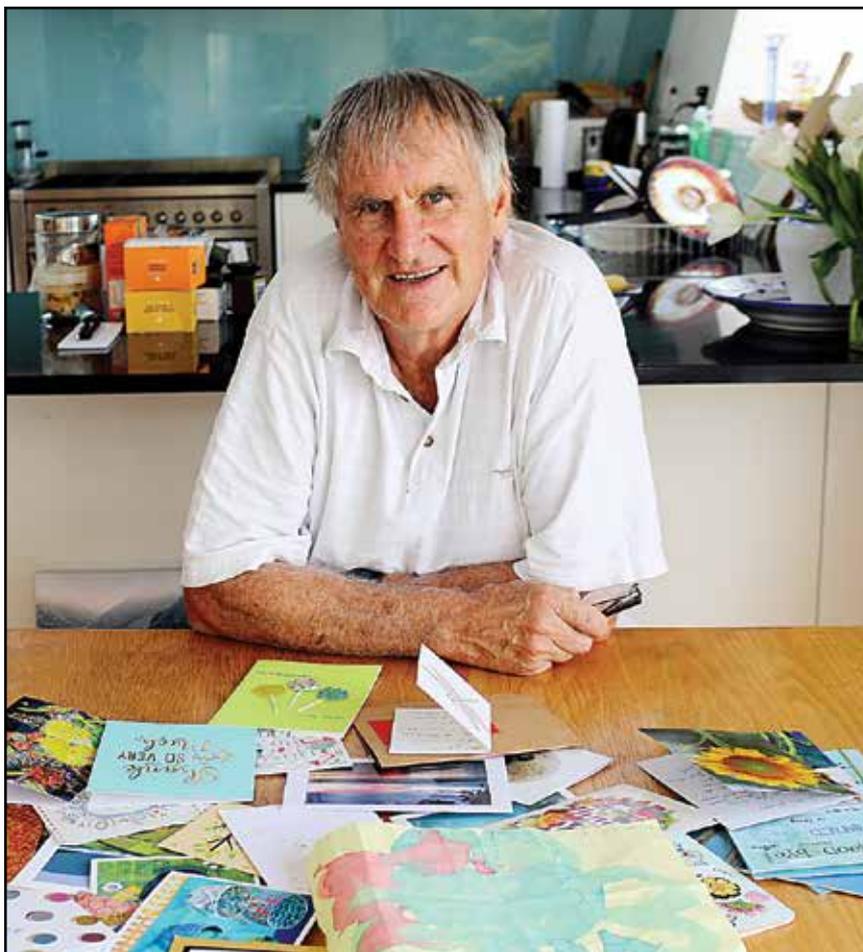
After that, Smith expects to return to family medicine part-time, but not to own a practice again.

He has handed his share of the Devonport practice over to partner Dr Pieter Veenhuijsen.

Between them, they had 2000 patients registered, and saw many more on a walk-in basis. Devonport patients who have moved away have continued to travel to see Smith, some coming from as far as Wanaka and Northland.

"I think being a GP is a privilege," he says. "People trust you."

He first set up in an upstairs room on Victoria Rd in 1980, with only a receptionist in



**Signing off... GP Grant Smith with some of the cards he has received from patients as he departed his practice of 38 years**

the practice.

"I used to say, 'If you can make it up my stairs, you don't need to see me.'"

The Devonport Family Medicine premises in Fleet St were built 32 years ago.

Dr Erica Lauder joined the practice 28 years ago, operating independently but in the same building. With Smith's departure, she has moved temporarily to The Doctors, at Hauraki Corner, with plans to return to new premises in Devonport later in the year.

Seven years ago, Smith sold half his practice to Veenhuijsen, which allowed Smith to reduce his hours and start taking holidays.

Having taken the next logical step of handing over the rest of the practice, it's time for breather, albeit with Spanish lessons and that next world triathlon to prepare for.

Friends ask why Smith and Sardi don't move to their South Island land. Smith points to their home in Bayswater, with a large section running down to Ngataranga Bay, and asks why he would want to leave.



**Running on... Smith's triathlon career will continue**



# Harcourts



**Devonport 24b Aramoana Ave**

3 2 1 1 2

**Stylish, Sunny & Spacious**  
 Beautifully designed and secluded with fabulous indoor-outdoor flow and plenty of sun, this home will see you enjoying all the seasons. Designed to ensure living in this home is easy, a double bedroom and bathroom are discreetly located on the lower level. Open plan living, dining and a lovely modern, sunny kitchen flow seamlessly to a very private north facing garden.

**For Sale \$1,149,000**  
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**Jenny Hinton**  
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**Devonport 11 Buchanan Street**

6 3 2

**Central Devonport Opportunity**  
 Absolute central Devonport location set on 612m2. Take the 5 minute walk for a swim, to the 10 minute ferry to the CBD, or Devonport Village. This home is perfect for families with children of all ages, with two motel units positioned at the rear of the property for aged parents, those who work from home or those who are keen to earn an income from the motel units.

**For Sale \$2,700,000**  
**View As advertised or by appointment**  
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**Devonport 4 Ngataringa Rd**

5 4 1 2 2

**Plush, Luxurious And 3.5 Years Young**  
 WOW is how we would describe this substantial family home of almost 290m2, with a long list of high quality chattels. Sunny, low maintenance and a well thought out floorplan. Possibility of separate quarters on the ground floor for parents, or utilise it for the family, or a possible income! Priced to sell, you will be hard pushed to find all this value for money elsewhere!

**For Sale**  
 By Negotiation  
**View As advertised or by appointment**  
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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 \$1,200,000**  
**View by appointment**  
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**Maria Stevens**  
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**Devonport 5 Aramoana Avenue**

2 2 2 1 2

**Friends/Siblings/Investors**  
 • Ideal for friends or siblings that want to buy together, happy to share a mortgage but not their homes. Or someone who wants an extra income  
 • Yes it is different, but all code compliant, and it is on a 531m2 freehold section  
 • Both separate dwellings are joined with a walk-through via the laundry room  
 • This is priced extremely well to sell.

**For Sale \$975,000**  
**View As advertised or by appointment**  
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**Beach Haven 9a Gazelle Avenue**

3 1 1 1 1

**Coastal Beach Haven, Walk To Ferry**  
 What a fabulous spot 9A Gazelle is in! With the ferry just a short walk away and beautiful Tui Glen Park at the end of the road the location is spot on. Come home to a relaxing environment, this comfortable three-bedroom home sits tucked away and is positioned nicely for the sun. Surrounded by bush gives you peace and privacy.

**For Sale \$698,000**  
**View by appointment**  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22326](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22326)

**Maria Stevens**  
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# Harcourts



**Devonport 53 Aramoana Avenue**

4 3 1 1 1

**Wow! Fantastic Family Paradise**

- Originally built in the 1950s this timber home is substantial at around 210m<sup>2</sup> on almost a ¼ acre site, so rare in this part of town, potential to sub divide;
- Spacious rooms, separation of living, a parents retreat upstairs, an office beside in-ground swimming pool, outside entertaining area, plenty of grass to run around, car parking and garaging.

**Auction**

On Site, Sunday 28th April 2019 at 5.00pm (unless sold prior)  
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**Devonport 12 Allenby Avenue**

5 2 3 2

**Make Me Your Family Home**

Are you looking for a home with big rooms, original pressed tin ceilings, a big backyard, garaging and endless potential? Originally a single level villa, which was lifted and a lower level added to accommodate garaging and granny flat, this home would love nothing more than to once again become a grand lady of the street.

**For Sale \$1,875,000**

**View** As advertised  
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**Diana Murray**  
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**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**

By Negotiation  
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**OPEN HOME**

**Devonport 21 Lake Road**

4 3 2 2 2

**Fantastic Buying Opportunity**

Exceptional value \$180,000 below RV, this "As New" ex South Pacific Timber show home has also enjoyed a \$100,000 renovation. Clear Vendor instructions to sell.

**For Sale**

\$1,695,000  
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**Peter Restall**  
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[peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz)  
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**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, café's & so much more.

**For Sale**

\$1,549,000  
**View** By appointment  
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**Matt Hunt**  
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[matt.hunt@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:matt.hunt@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 \$2,495,000**

**View** As advertised or by appointment  
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# Why do we have to be frightened? Let us remember them

I have just heard that Devonport Anzac Parade has been canned because of what happened on March 15. Why?

When recent terrorist attacks have occurred around the world, the prime minister or president of that country has said it will be business as usual – otherwise the terrorist wins. But not so in New Zealand, all because of a crazed Aussie.

Anzac Day is special to a lot of New Zealanders, myself included. I lost two great-uncles (Grandad's brothers) in World War I, one at Daisy Patch, Gallipoli, and one at Passchendaele.

Dad lost one of his brothers in World War II, at El Alamein.

I myself lost a good buddy when we were both blown up in Vietnam. He died 30

minutes after the incident; I was wounded.

In Devonport, we have a Navy guard in attendance at the parade. Surely they could give them some live ammo if they are frightened of another attack because we haven't enough police to guard us.

Why do we have to be frightened unless there is something the police haven't involved the media in? We would like to be able to remember those that paid the ultimate sacrifice to keep our country free.

Give us a chance to remember them, as the last line of the ode is: "We will remember them".

**Dennis Manson**

## More on those big cars

Any person is of course free to drive what they want. Gender is irrelevant (Flagstaff letters, 22 March and 5 April.)

Driving a truck when you aren't a farmer or a tradesperson is antisocial in a small town with narrow roads and extreme traffic congestion.

When I and my siblings were growing up in Cheltenham, my working mother drove a mini and managed to cope – children are by definition small.

Let's adopt a mindset of consideration – to our fellows and to the planet.

**Isaac Donaldson**

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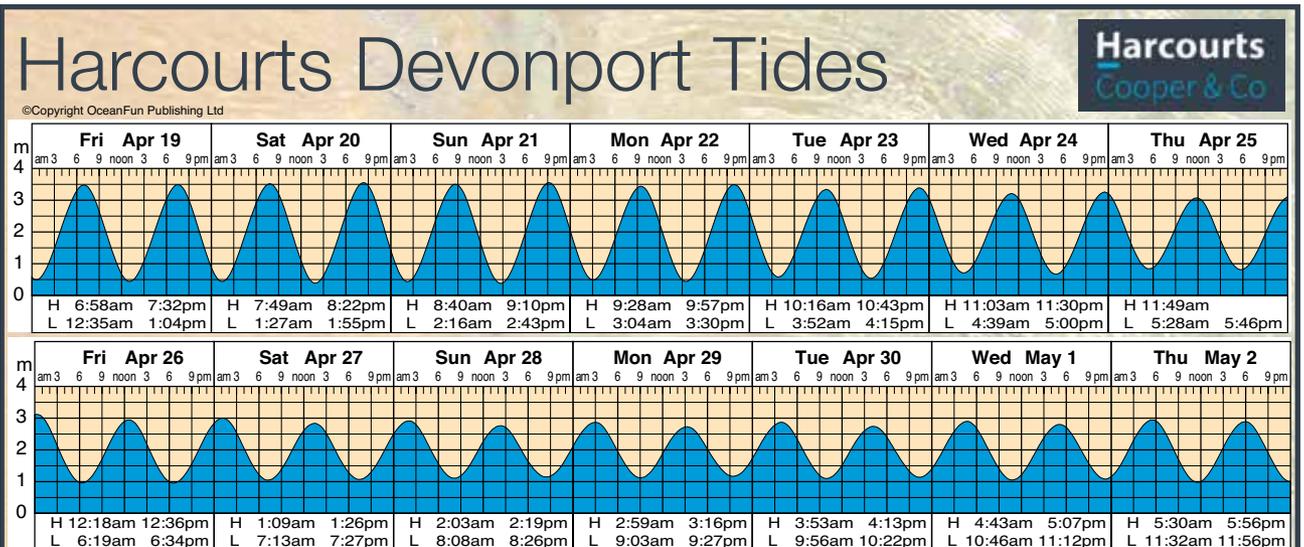
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## True believers backed cricket success

North Shore Cricket Club quietly slipped down from the Auckland two-day Hedley Howarth Championship to the second grade, the Tom Hellaby Trophy, seven years ago.

Since then, only a handful of North Shore tragics have dragged themselves Saturday after Saturday to watch our Premier team play two-day minor championship games.

That's 68 games, 136 Saturdays, nearly five whole months out of their lives hoping and praying that this time we would win and be promoted. After watching 5,844 overs, 35,069 balls bowled, it came down to this. The last two overs of the season. It felt as if life stood still.

Often over those last seven seasons, we appeared to be in a winning position, coming second five times out of the seven.

As time passed and the task seemed to get increasingly difficult, some of us thought it would take a seismic shift within the club for anything dramatic to happen.

In the end it was a series of small 'earthquakes' that changed everything. A new chair of the board with a slightly different emphasis, a new coach with a completely different approach and an older, wiser playing group made the change.

But that wasn't all. For too long we felt the Premier team was playing in isolation,

as if disconnected; not knowing the whole club looked up to them and wanted to support them.

"We Believe" – a watchword, a motto, a slogan, came into being and was spread through communication.

It was to let the Premier team know: "We believe in you – we believe you can do this."

But it was designed to do more than that. It also said we believe in our juniors, we believe in girls' cricket, we believe in the board – in fact, we believe in North Shore.

And almost imperceptibly everyone began to 'believe'. There was a new confidence, a new spirit throughout everything.

So, with darkness falling, and only two overs left in which our fate would sealed, everyone held their breath and silently prayed.

When Graeme Beghin pulled the fifth ball for four to win the game outright, and the championship, it was no wonder the boundary exploded into wild euphoria.

It was the way it was achieved that made it so rewarding. The camaraderie and support between all teams, the good humour and sportsmanship all contributed.

And now, those sad old tragics at last have their wish – to play in the major championship. We thank you.

**Roger Brittenden**

## Bus-destinations board just plain silly

AT has had another jab at the real-time Board at Devonport Wharf, so now it's even sillier: the only bus destinations shown are Devonport and Akoranga.

But at least now the departure times are correct.

So here's a translation: you want to go to Takapuna during the day? The 814 leaves at a quarter to and a quarter past each hour, and goes on to Akoranga. Going to Cheltenham? Yours is the 807, also leaving at quarter to and quarter past. If you're heading for Stanley Point, you need the 806 which leaves

for Stanley Point on the hour and half past.

The 814 varies in morning and evening rush hours and on the weekend, but the 806 and 807 have the same timetable seven days a week, 7am to 7pm.

So go out, hop on, and enjoy those great big chauffeur-driven limos, because it's decades since we had such a comprehensive bus service, and the extension to Akoranga is brilliant – direct to the Northern Express.

Just don't try to make any sense of the real-time board.

**Miriam Beatson**

## Clock this: a three-man operation

Isn't this wrong? It's time to change the time on the clock at the foot of Church St (daylight savings). One man and a ladder? Maybe one to hold it steady. Five minutes.

Not with Auckland Council in control: three men, a crane truck with scissor platform, lots of fluoro and cones. And, oh yes, one hour start to finish, including driving all over the lawns and blocking off the footpath.

I assume they go to the ferry building clock next, and are back again in October.

Ahh, that's where the rates go.

**John Waymouth**



**Timely shot... Adjusting the waterfront clock opposite Church St**

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Making Community Happen



OUT & ABOUT

Maria Teape Community Coordinator

445 9533 | maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

### ALLSTARS – WHEN I GROW UP

Tuesday 23 April–Saturday 27 April  
The Rose Centre, School Road, Belmont

The National Youth Theatre Company presents its AllStars programme where the budding singers, dancers and actors in your family have a chance to thrive and develop their skills.

Cost: \$280. For more info and to register visit: [www.allstars.co.nz](http://www.allstars.co.nz)

### ANZAC DAY AT THE NAVY MUSEUM

Thursday, 25 April, 10:00am–5:00pm  
Torpedo Bay Navy Museum, 64 King Edward Pde

Commemorate Anzac Day 2019 at the Navy Museum. There will be a range of activities on offer, suitable for all ages including poppy-making, Anzac cookie baking, swing dancing and live music. Free event.

For more info visit: [www.navyuseum.co.nz](http://www.navyuseum.co.nz)

### DAVE WALKER ACOUSTIC LOUNGE

Friday, 26 April, 8:00pm  
The Vic Devonport, 48 Victoria Road

Singer-songwriter Dave Walker performs his Acoustic Lounge repertoire at The Vic Music Lounge. After working the folk circuit in England and France in the 80s and 90s, he relocated to New Zealand and is now a Devonport local.

Cost: Free, donations welcome. For bookings and more info email: [info@thevic.co.nz](mailto:info@thevic.co.nz)

### SADIE & JAY CONCERT

Monday, 29 April, 8:00pm  
The Bunker, Takarunga/Mt Victoria

Beautiful songs, glorious harmonies, intricate finger-style guitar, bouzouki and double bass. Scottish/Kiwi David (Jay) Penman is from a large family of traditional singers. Sadie is from a Welsh heritage and has a love of singing jazz and blues styles. Together they promise a warm and entertaining night.

Tickets: \$15. Please book early on 09 445 2227. For info visit: [www.devonportfolkmusic.co.nz](http://www.devonportfolkmusic.co.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](mailto:maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz)

With special thanks to the  
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## Local lawyer makes the case for work-life blending

Julia Batchelor-Smith juggles a legal career with family life, and has written a guide for fellow lawyers on work-life balance. She talks to Helen Vause about 'having it all'.



**Home comfort... Julia Batchelor-Smith says a day out of her workplace gives her time for family and community involvement**

Devonport's Julia Batchelor-Smith has found herself at the forefront of recent discussions about work-life balance.

A senior associate at the law firm Minter Ellison Rudd Watts, she is also the mother of two young children and an active member of the local community.

Her friends often wonder out loud how she does it. And Batchelor-Smith herself has put a lot of thought into how she can juggle everything, and how anyone can 'have it all'.

In a house still full of flowers after a ripper of a 40th birthday party, we caught up with Batchelor-Smith – before she bolted off to a school event – on her Friday off, and chatted about how work-life balance has become 'her thing'.

Her book *Balancing Work and Life: a Practical Guide for Lawyers* was published in 2015, and quickly found a wider audience than the legal profession.

And in November last year, Batchelor-Smith was appointed to the New Zealand Law Society's Culture Change Taskforce, set up in response to the soul-searching in the profession that followed the Russell McVeagh sexual harassment and misconduct scandal.

She's also a regular commentator on many of the issues that impact working parents.

Batchelor-Smith says she decided she'd be a lawyer when she was a young girl. By the age of eight, she'd managed to set up an interview with a lawyer, talking about the world of law. Already she had the bug to help people and to serve, but also to have a say in things.

Typically for young lawyers, her career started off in the time-honoured tradition of working very long hours, with the rest of life being crammed into the little time that was left.

She met husband Chris Smith at 22, and when they decided to have children about 10 years later, they found – like the many who had trodden the path before them – that something had to change if they were going to live the lives they wanted.

Their first-born daughter, Allegra, is now eight years old, and her sister, Zoe, is five.

"Before I had Allegra, I had been planning to take six months' maternity leave and then to go back to work full-time. In fact, I took a year off and went back to work for a four-day week," Batchelor-Smith recalls.

She acknowledges that until a first child comes into their lives, parents can't really know

just how much things will change. She laughs at memories of herself in the early days with baby Allegra.

"My world was turned on its axis. The impact on me in every way was far greater than I'd anticipated. It was all very positive, but overwhelming."

With her perspective radically altered, Batchelor-Smith wanted to dig deep into work-life balance and strategies that could support it.

She had plenty of insight into the demands and stresses that come with a job like hers and of the issues besetting women in the legal profession.

When the time came to return to work, she wondered how her career path would look. How was she going to fit it all in? Could she have a career and a family life?

She realised there were issues plaguing her peers and began writing about it regularly in a magazine for lawyers. Her thinking attracted lots of interest from both men and women in the legal profession.

*Balancing Work and Life* grew out of her magazine columns, and became a bestseller. Researching and writing the book took place during the year she "took off" after the birth

of her second child, Zoe.

It's packed with tips on prioritising workload, dealing with stress, nurturing family and friends, and lots more, for professionals navigating busy lives.

It includes insights and case studies from around 60 members of the legal profession on how they balance the challenges of trying to 'have it all'.

Of course, there is no magic bullet for balancing work and life, says Batchelor-Smith. But changing the way we approach it can make a big difference to how working parents operate.

In her book, Batchelor-Smith writes: "When it comes to achieving work-life balance, lawyers have a terrible track record. Our profession is littered with chronically stressed people leading unhappy lives.

"We know that being happy at home and at work is important, but on a practical level we're at a loss as to how to consistently achieve this.

"Having it all is the veritable holy grail of balance in work and life. It's the mountain top. It's what we think we should be striving for – fulfilment in all areas of our lives without work negatively impinging on life, or vice versa."

The first step in figuring it all out and getting life sorted, she says, is knowing what 'having it all' means to you and identifying your priorities. In her own life, it meant being able to work for four days a week in the office until two in the afternoon, and making it back home in time to be with her daughters after school. Having a day off gives her time for personal

and family activities and for community involvement.

She says achieving life balance can mean facing home truths in a positive way, recognising life isn't perfect, accepting that you can't control everything and then focusing

---

*"No one is going to make changes that might be a better fit for you. You do have to be brave enough to push for changes."*

---

on finding solutions. And realising that things change and learning to roll with that, too, Batchelor-Smith says.

Comparing ourselves with others is a trap to avoid; overcoming disappointments with good grace is a winning strategy; as is staying flexible along the changing road of the ongoing juggle.

"I'm a strong advocate for a mindset change," she says. "I like to put the concept of embracing work-life 'blending' rather than chasing work-life balance. To me, that means seeking one contented life, rather than separating the two spheres. With technology today, we can't really separate work from home life so easily any more."

Batchelor-Smith says she's lucky she has

an employer who agrees to flexible working hours, and says it's an arrangement that's becoming more common for working parents in her profession and other sectors.

"But women are still held to different standards. If a woman leaves the office to take kids to swimming lessons, there will probably be eye-rolling and comments about skiving off again. If a man does the same thing, all his colleagues will probably be saying what a good dad he is.

"I'm very lucky to be working with people who support me and think like me on these issues. But you do need to get yourself to a point when you can be proactive in being the architect of your own career. No one is going to make changes that might be a better fit for you. You do have to be brave enough to push for changes."

While her book has brought her into the forefront of a conversation that's been raging among working parents, she says this is a time of real progress, in the lot of mothers working in the law, at least.

The Law Society's Culture Change Taskforce was set up soon after a Legal Workplace Environment Survey released last May showed that 18 per cent of lawyers (31 per cent of women and 5 per cent of men) have been sexually harassed, and 52 per cent of lawyers have experienced some form of bullying during their working lifetime. The taskforce is expected to drive culture change within the legal community and to come up with a strategy and action plan by the end of the year.

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YOUR NEST IS OUR NICHE

# Devonport cricketers win Auckland title



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**Top Auckland side... the North Shore cricketers received their trophies at a prizegiving at Eden Park.**

**Back, left to right: Holly Alderston, Summer Lear, Olivia Priddy, Issy Smith, Scout Hallman, Rishika Jaswal.**

**Front, left to right: Raiha Jeory-Reynolds, Jasmine Perry, Lucy Collett, Natasha Busch.**

North Shore Cricket Club has taken out the Auckland Cricket Under-13 girls title.

Topping the batting stats was Scout Hallman with 228 runs at an average of 45.6.

Top of the bowlers was Rishika Jaswal with 14 wickets. Her best figures were 4 for 6 and an economy rate of 2.83.

## Record rugby score but no joy for Shore

The North Shore Rugby Club Premiers side posted a club record 111-0 win against Glenfield last Saturday. But there was no joy from senior club members.

Shore club captain Chris Tankard described the result as "just terrible."

The Glenfield club's senior ranks were depleted this year and less than a dozen players were believed to have turned up to training last Thursday.

Some Glenfield players had to play in both the premier reserve and premier matches last Saturday to make up the numbers, Tankard said.

"There wasn't even a scoreboard in operation," he said.

The current state of rugby at Glenfield and other clubs should spark a wider North Harbour review of closer connections between clubs and schools, Tankard said.

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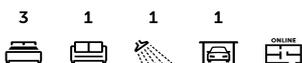
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**DEVONPORT** 38 MOZELEY AVENUE

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# Jackson legacy continues on in Devonport

Colourful museum owner and Devonport identity the late Bryan Jackson will be honoured with a park bench and plaque.

Jackson, who died in 2015, lived in Devonport for several decades.

He bought the old post office building on Victoria Rd in the 1990s and established Jackson's Muzeum, which held thousands of historical pieces – including a complete London bar.

Jackson had several long-running battles with North Shore City Council, the local governing body for Devonport at the time.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member Mike Cohen, who was the Devonport Community Board chair for much of Jackson's era, said the museum owner had caused "an awful lot of misery" for council through seemingly endless fights over planning issues.

Jackson erected two illegal telephone boxes on the top of his building in protest at council decisions.

Cohen said he initially wondered how the seat application, from Jackson's daughter, got through the council system.

"But he was a colourful character and we have lost a lot of colourful characters in Devonport that we used to have."

Board member Grant Gillon said Jackson was a controversial figure but one who should be remembered.

Gillon recalled how Jackson had auc-



**Colourful character... Bryan Jackson in his museum circa 2005**

tioned off his collection, but needed to return some of the items to original owners who had lent pieces to the museum.

Jackson had once placed a full-page advertisement in the Flagstaff seeking a wife/companion.

He had also offered the council \$50,000 to renovate the old bandstand in Windsor Reserve, but terms could not be agreed.

The local board approved the seat at its meeting last week. It is likely to be installed outside the ANZ bank on Victoria Rd.

## The Retirement Conundrum



Martin Edwards  
Mandy Pettit

**Many of the 'baby boomer' generation are either retired or working their way towards retirement. They have worked hard to build their 'nest egg' and need the accumulated funds to work for them, in order to enjoy their desired retirement lifestyle. Our experience is that making decisions on where to invest these funds can be quite a conundrum in the current investment environment.**

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This column is general in nature and should not be regarded as personalised investment advice. Disclosure Statements for Forsyth Barr Authorised Financial Advisers are available on request and free of charge.

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*Photos are indicative.*



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## 20 years ago from the Flagstaff files



**Sky Tower Challenge winners... Bronwyn O'Connor, Rob Richards, Lynden Shannahan and Jonathan Raos**

- Devonport Wharf is under new ownership with private investors having grand plans to revitalise it.

- A team from Devonport Gym – Bronwyn O'Connor, Rob Richards, Lynden Shannahan and Jonathan Raos – wins the mixed-team title at the Sky Tower Vertical Challenge. The team's total time was 35 minutes 20 seconds.

- The Esplanade Hotel business is for sale. The building is for sale as well and is expected to reach a price of \$3.5 million.

- Moves to relocate the former National Party headquarters in Wynyard St lead to a debate about its heritage status. North Shore City Council says it is a Category-B listed building, but developers countered that it is no longer on council's list of notable buildings.

- Devonport Yacht Club patron Sir Peter Blake speaks at the club on the upcoming America's Cup campaign and his planned work for the Cousteau Society.

- A hot-air balloon is forced to make an emergency landing on Waitemata Golf Course. But early morning golfers are unperturbed – chipping and putting as

though nothing has happened. Balloon pilot Daryl McKee and four passengers were uninjured.

- Interview subject, author Virginia Were, talks about relationships, punk music and her new book *Jump Start*.

- Artist David Kayrouz paints 29 paintings Cézanne-style in a month for *Amy's View*, an Auckland Theatre Company production for the Maidment Theatre.

- A young man survives with only minor bruising after a 100m plunge in a car down Mt Victoria, after he kidnapped his girlfriend in Auckland and drove her to Devonport.

- An anti-bullying counsellor and author gives a talk at Devonport Primary School.

- All Black great Frano Botica, at 36, says 1999 will be his final year playing for North Shore and North Harbour.

- 12 Jubilee Ave sells for \$1.05 million. It is one of the first homes in Devonport to fetch more than \$1 million.

- A two-bedroom flat is for sale in Cheltenham for \$279,000 and a three-bedroom villa on Calliope Rd on the market for \$399,000.

## Visitor-safety measures assessed at Fort Takapuna

Visitor safety at Fort Takapuna is under review by the Department of Conservation (DoC).

DoC Auckland Mainland Operations Manager Kirsty Prior said: "We're reviewing the measures we have in place to keep visitors safe at all our sites, including Fort Takapuna Historic Reserve.

"This involves assessing existing safety measures and identifying any improvements we can make to enhance visitor safety at Fort Takapuna.

"One thing we're considering is improving information provided to Fort Takapuna visitors at the site."

# Seeing the light: church goes solar

Nearly 100 solar panels are planned for the roof of a Devonport church that wants to generate its own power.

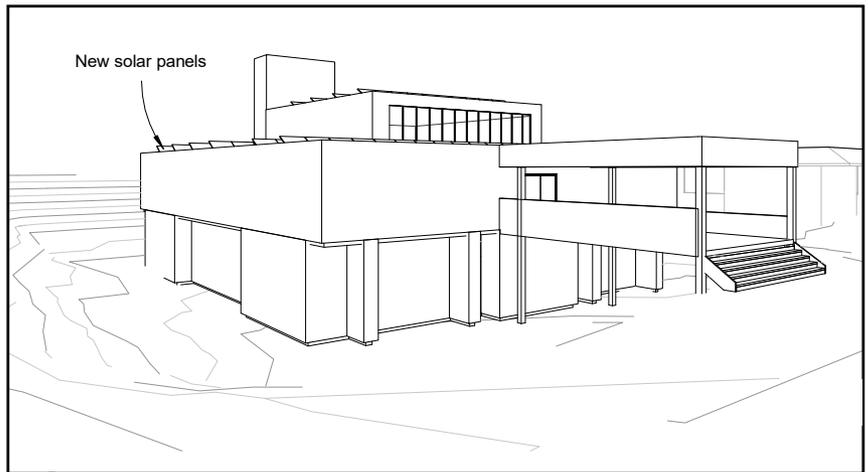
Devonport Methodist Church has applied for resource consent to install 96 solar panels on the roof of its building on the corner of Lake and Owens Rds.

The proposed panels are expected to produce about 70 per cent of the church's electricity needs, making it a more environmentally sustainable organisation while reducing its operating costs, the resource-consent application says.

Church minister Abhishek Solomon is overseeing the project, which is being designed by local architect Ken Davis.

"The church is concerned about the environment and its impact on it," Davis says in the application.

The 96 panels are to be fixed to the lower and upper roofs of the main church building, and will be minimally visible from surrounding public streets. The consent also states that the panels will have



**Power on high... An impression of the projected view of the solar panels from the corner of Owens and Lake Rds**

dark grey or black finishes that further reduce their visibility.

Solomon did not want to comment

when approached by the Devonport Flagstaff, during the initial planning stages.

## THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

### Navy shares values with Stanley Bay School

During the last week of the Stanley Bay School term one, members of HMNZS Te Kaha's crew visited the school to teach the children about Anzac Day, undertake some teamwork evolutions and have fun.

The crew challenged senior school pupils to a poetry competition on the subject of "What Anzac Day means to you". The middle school enjoyed preparing poppy wreaths for Anzac Day parades, while the juniors learned about the symbols of Anzac Day.

A 25-person life-raft was inflated on the school field before being floated in the school pool. All the children donned their togs and were taught how to flip the life-raft the right way up before clambering into it from the water.

Using the life-raft in the school pool presented the children with a challenge, whilst reinforcing the values of resilience, teamwork and survival.

Although the weather was fine, it was not warm, "which definitely drove home the lesson that you need to get out of water fast before a combination of exhaustion and cold



**Stanley Bay School pupils learnt how to flip the life-raft and climb into it during the Navy visit.**

can lead to hypothermia setting in," said Lieutenant Commander Rob McCaw, Executive Officer of HMNZS Te Kaha.

"The kids were straight into it," said Lt Cdr McCaw. "Having the life-raft was something

new and interesting. It was pretty cool."

He said they wanted to align the Navy activities with the school's strategic vision of resilience and teamwork.

"And doing this in the lead-up to Anzac Day was a great opportunity."

Navy personnel returned to the school during the last day of term to award prizes for the poetry competition as well as handing out ship's caps and coins to the pupils.

School principal Lucy Naylor said the Navy involvement was "absolutely fantastic and the children were buzzing with excitement. It was really authentic learning, and good camaraderie, teamwork and leadership."

She was impressed the children were in togs by 8.30am on a cold day.

"The kids loved it."

"It was more than just teaching about Anzac Day. There was this real sense of community, with sailors in our class for lessons, then out there kicking the ball around. They felt very much part of our school," she said.

**Devonport Naval Base security reminder – for the safety of the community please take care and remain outside the 60 metre perimeter of the Naval Base at all times. This includes when swimming, diving, kayaking, fishing and sailing.**

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

DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE TEL 445 5002



# Masonic Cricket Club hits half-century

The Masonic Cricket Club, based at Vauxhall Rd Domain, celebrated its 50th anniversary with a party – and cricket – for present and former members.



**Skipper's knock...** Above: Club captain Simon Keeling batting, while ex-president Chris Sweetman keeps wicket. Below: Lusty hitting (and the wearing of jeans) showcased the club's commitment to enjoyment and informality.





**Howzat... Stalwarts were out in force to mark the birthday of a Devonport institution**



**Still at it... Life members (from left) Don Howie, Roy Mackessack, Stuart Charles and John East. Absent from this photo, but present on the day and scoring 100 runs with the bat, was ex-president and life member Brett Glover.**

# No time to go to work, says resident at The Poynton retirement village.

Resident Jan Ellin says the past seven years at Metlifecare's The Poynton retirement village have exceeded all expectations and she and her partner have no regrets.

## An active lifestyle

Jan, 82, and her partner Jim, 88, previously lived by Lake Pupuke, before moving into their two-bedroom apartment at The Poynton in December 2011, a decision she says was right for them.

In the last seven years, Jan has spent time as the Activities Coordinator on the Residents' Committee, and has kept her finger on the pulse of all the activities taking place within the village.

"I'm on almost every activity that The Poynton has to offer. We have seven sporting activities, we've got exercise groups, Scottish and line dancing, and we've got great entertainment and talks. We lead a very active lifestyle," says Jan.

When Jan arrived, she was working part-time, but quickly gave work up as she says it was interfering with all the activities that she wanted to get involved in.

"There's no time to go to work! The activities keep us feeling young and active. If we were in our own homes, we wouldn't be doing half the things we do here," she adds.

Jim had never been overly involved in sport before moving to The Poynton, where he is now an avid player of outdoor bowls and table tennis.

## The place to be

Jan says they were not initially considering The Poynton as they already lived down the road. They were looking at villages from Orewa to Tauranga – where they had even signed up – before changing their minds and choosing The Poynton.

"As soon as we walked through the door, we said, 'This is it. This is where we want to be'. We sensed a great atmosphere and a community spirit," Jan says.

The couple say their top requirements in choosing a retirement village were size, location, parking and storage space.

"Location was a major factor for us. The Poynton is handy to the hospital, buses, medical specialists, and we have our car park and storage space included in the cost of our apartment, which to us was a real plus," says Jan.



Jan was also drawn in by the facilities on offer, including an on-site hairdresser, physiotherapist, doctor and a first-class café – the envy of visitors from other villages, she says.

"We consider we have value for money, and we wholeheartedly would recommend The Poynton to anybody who's looking for somewhere to go."

## Good security and lifelong friends

Jan's family and friends are confident that she and Jim are in the right place.

"We've got good security, which gives the family and us peace of mind. When they visit us, they sense a happy and a relaxed atmosphere," Jan says.

The social side of village life is another plus for the couple, who are very involved in the community.

"One should not be lonely. I've met some very interesting people. We have residents from all walks of life and it's been great sharing life's experiences with them," she explains.

"I've met new people, made lifelong friends and reconnected with people I went to primary school with or lived next door to when I was a young girl," Jan says.

## The extra mile

Staff at The Poynton often go the extra mile, Jan says, and have formed warm friendships with the residents over the years.



She says, "We've got wonderful managers and staff. Some of the staff have been here since day one, which I think speaks volumes. They go out of their way to do things for us. We're treated with respect and nothing is too much trouble."

"We have a spirit of togetherness here, we all look after each other," says Jan.

**For more information on The Poynton's retirement lifestyle, phone Suzee on (027) 218 7985.**

## Belmont Primary School Parent Election Notice Board of Trustees Election

Nominations are invited for the election of five (5) parent representatives to the Board of Trustees.

A nomination form can be obtained from the school office. You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself. Both parts of the form must be signed.

Nominations close at noon on Friday 24 May 2019 and may be accompanied by a signed candidate statement and photograph.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

**Voting closes at noon on  
Friday 7 June 2019.**

**Apply to  
office@belmont.school.nz  
or ring 09 445 6605  
for more information.**

## Chamber orchestra off to a fine start in its 20th year

The 2019 season of the Devonport Chamber Orchestra (DCO) – its 20th – began with a winning mix of stunning Beethoven and equally stunning playing from Anita Austin, horn soloist in Richard Strauss's *Horn Concerto No 1*.

Austin, a young Aucklander with an impressive academic and performance record in New Zealand, is currently pursuing a masters degree in horn performance at the Queensland Conservatory in Brisbane.

The Strauss opened the concert and the fanfare with which it begins was magisterial. Austin has impressive breath control and was totally confident in the wide leaps within the horn's register.

Written by Richard Strauss for his father, a notable horn player and composer, the concerto has plenty to test the soloist. It is claimed that Strauss senior never performed it publicly, saying it was too difficult for him.

Austin's mellow tone and smooth phrasing was equal to its challenges. Led with aplomb by Brecon Carter, and conducted with a clear and decisive beat by Warwick Robinson, the orchestra provided responsive support to the soloist.

Beethoven's *Symphony No 1* begins with a

slow introduction and was played with gravitas before a swift shift into the allegro. There was a lovely interplay of melodies within the woodwind section and the strings played with immaculate precision. Although this is early Beethoven, there were hints of a developing harmonic style that would find fruition in the *Eroica*. The trumpets added sparkle to a rather measured tempo.

The symphony really came alive in the third and fourth movements, where a brisk tempo and lighter mood provided lovely light and shade. The strings proved themselves equal to the rapid runs – the basses were impressive in their slick finger work, string-crossing and marcato bowing. The splendid woodwind melodies and strong horn-playing made for a rich blend.

Altogether it was a happy mix of youthful brilliance – both composers in their early careers – played with verve and enthusiasm.

In the DCO's next concert at 2pm on Sunday 2 June, Paddy Cornfield will be soloist in Grieg's famous piano concerto, which will be preceded by Rossini's *Semiramide* overture.

See the website for more information (dco.net.nz).

**By Rogan Falla**

## First-class activities, says resident at The Poynton retirement village.

**It has been a busy and enjoyable eighteen months at Metlifecare's The Poynton for resident John Thompson, who says the best things about life at the retirement village are the activities and the people.**

### First-class activities

John keeps himself busy at The Poynton, engaging in a number of activities he describes as "first class", and which give him the opportunity to spend time with his friends, old and new.

"The activities here are almost endless. Before I arrived, I was told by a friend who already lived here not to sign up to everything at the word go, or I'd be exhausted! So, I've chosen carefully and now I play bowls, I play croquet, a little table tennis and snooker – and there are lots of other things," John says.

The activities are not the only thing John thinks are first class. He loves the social side of village life that introduces him to new people.

"The best experience is discovering such interesting and nice people, who are now my new neighbours. That's the biggest surprise to me, and I didn't expect that," says John.

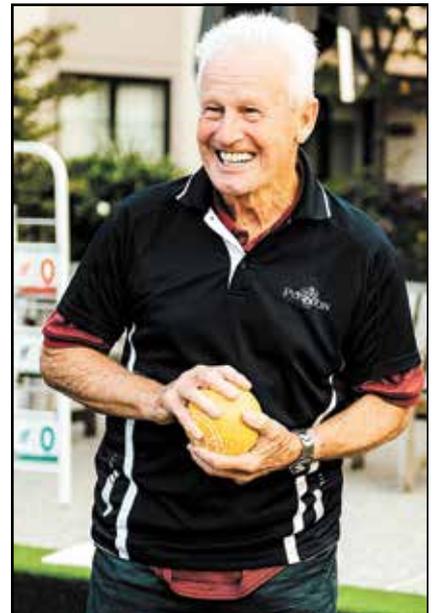
"It's a very sharing community but it isn't invasive. You can choose what you want to do and how much you want to do," he adds.

### John's advice

From his own experience, John recommends anyone considering moving into a retirement village should make the move while they're active and able to take full advantage of the superb facilities, endless activities and the vibrant community life on offer.

"I'm not a long-time resident, but I'm a very happy resident in the eighteen months so far and look forward to many more years here," John says.

**For more information on  
The Poynton's retirement lifestyle,  
phone Suzee on (027) 218 7985**





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# Expect the unexpected

An innovative kitchen by designer Marianne Gailer from Kitchens By Design has totally transformed and revitalised the interior of Sharon and Brian Slater's Browns Bay home.

**Could you tell me a little about you and your family – and also describe the existing kitchen before its recent makeover?**

*Sharon:* "We moved in here eight years ago, when the girls were quite a lot younger, and at that time the kitchen had a scullery and a small breakfast bar that could only seat two people, max. As the girls have grown and they've started to cook and bake, the kitchen layout didn't work for us, plus it was beginning to look tired. At first we thought about just doing a makeover, but we couldn't get the flow working and just kept stagnating. In the end we realised that we needed a whole new kitchen."

**How did you come across Kitchens By Design, and why did you choose them to design your new kitchen?**

*Sharon:* "By accident, actually. We happened to park right outside their Byron Ave showroom, looking for a café, and thought I'm definitely going to have a look around here. Marianne [Gailer, kitchen designer] opened the door for us and in we went. She was really helpful. We were immediately impressed with her knowledge."

*Brian:* "We were also impressed by the three kitchens they had on display – they were all quite different. At that stage, we were still looking at a makeover. But once we compared the pricing we'd been given for a makeover and what it would cost to pull the whole thing out and start again, it made much more sense to put in a brand-new kitchen."

**What was your brief to the designer?**

*Sharon:* "Our must-haves were a bigger, better breakfast bar; better layout and use of space; and having a bit more of a focal point, which we both agreed was the window. We always wanted that marble look and also some dark timber somewhere, because we already had dark wood in the rest of the house."

**How did the designer translate your brief – and was it what you expected?**

*Brian:* "The thing that really surprised us was that when Marianne came back with the first concepts, they were completely different from our preconceived ideas of what we thought our new kitchen was going to look like."

*Sharon:* "It took a bit of time to get used to the idea of getting rid of the scullery, but once we



thought it through, what Marianne proposed made perfect sense."

**What was the most enjoyable and memorable moment of the process?**

*Brian:* "When everything was pulled out, it was pretty scary. But the day we went out to the factory to see the new kitchen all set up, it looked spectacular. That's when we finally got a feel for what it was going to look like. That day was a highlight for us."

**What are your favourite parts of the new kitchen?**

*Sharon:* "The overall look of it, especially the breakfast bar. We love it when people see it for the first time and just go, 'wow!'"

*Brian:* "I love the island. I do a lot of work from home and it's a perfect space to work at – good height and the lighting is excellent. It always was the hub of the home, but it's even more so now."

**How did you find the experience of working with Kitchens By Design?**

*Brian:* "Marianne said to us, trust me, and she was right. We would never have been bold enough to do what we ended up with, but it couldn't have worked out better. There's nothing we'd change. Richard [Cripps, owner of KBD] is a perfectionist, and was really easy to deal with. Everything was handled so smoothly all the way through in a really transparent way."

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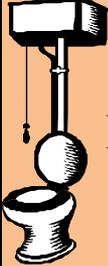


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**TUITION**

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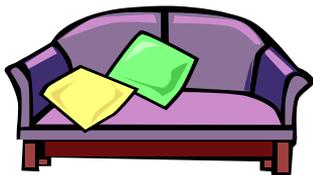
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# THIS MONTH @ the vic



### NEW MOVIES

RELEASE

RED JOAN (M) 109 min	18 APR
SOLDIERS WIHTOUT GUNS (M) 93 min	18 APR
AVENGERS: ENDGAME (tba) 182 min	24 APR
<b>ANZAC DAY SCREENING</b>	
THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD (RP16) 99 min	25 APR
THE EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY OF THE FAKIR (M) 92 min	2 MAY
LONG SHOT (tba) 125 min	2 MAY
THE AFTERMATH (M) 108 min	2 MAY
<b>THE CHILLS: THE TRIUMPH &amp; TRAGEDY OF MARTIN PHILLIPPS (M) 96 min</b>	
OF MARTIN PHILLIPPS (M) 96 min	2 MAY
THE CHAPERONE (PG) 108 min	2 MAY

### LIVE SHOWS & SPECIAL EVENTS

**FRI 3 MAY**

**DAVE WALKER ACOUSTIC LOUNGE - 8.00PM**

Singer Songwriter Dave Walker performs his Acoustic Lounge repertoire at The Vic Music Lounge. After working the folk circuit in England and France in the 80s and 90s he relocated to New Zealand and is now a Devonport local. Donations welcome

**MON 6 MAY**

**BIG BIKE FILM NIGHT 2019 - 8.00PM**

Prepare to be inspired! The Big Bike Film Night is on a mission to share the best cycling short films from around the world with you. Showcasing the 2019 collection (5th 'vintage') with everything a cycling-centric audience could want. Tickets from thevic.co.nz

**9, 10, 11 MAY**

**SEXY BUDDHA - 9.00PM**

A 50 minute live theatre comedy by Geoff Allen, starring Suzy Sampson and Joseph Wycoff, using The Vic Lounge Bar as the set where a Buddhist nun seeks refuge. Tickets \$17 or \$25 ticket with a non-alcoholic Sexy Buddha Cocktail. Book now!

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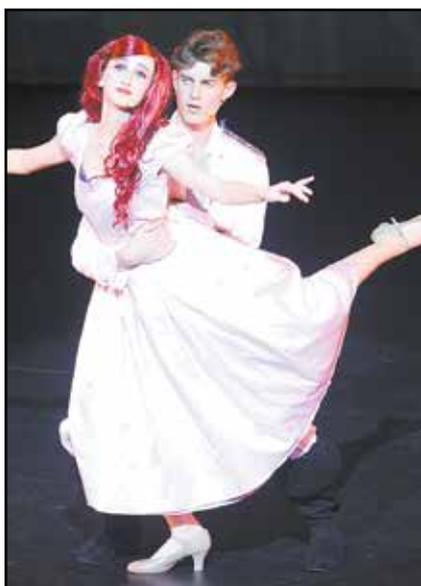
# Little Mermaid goes swimmingly



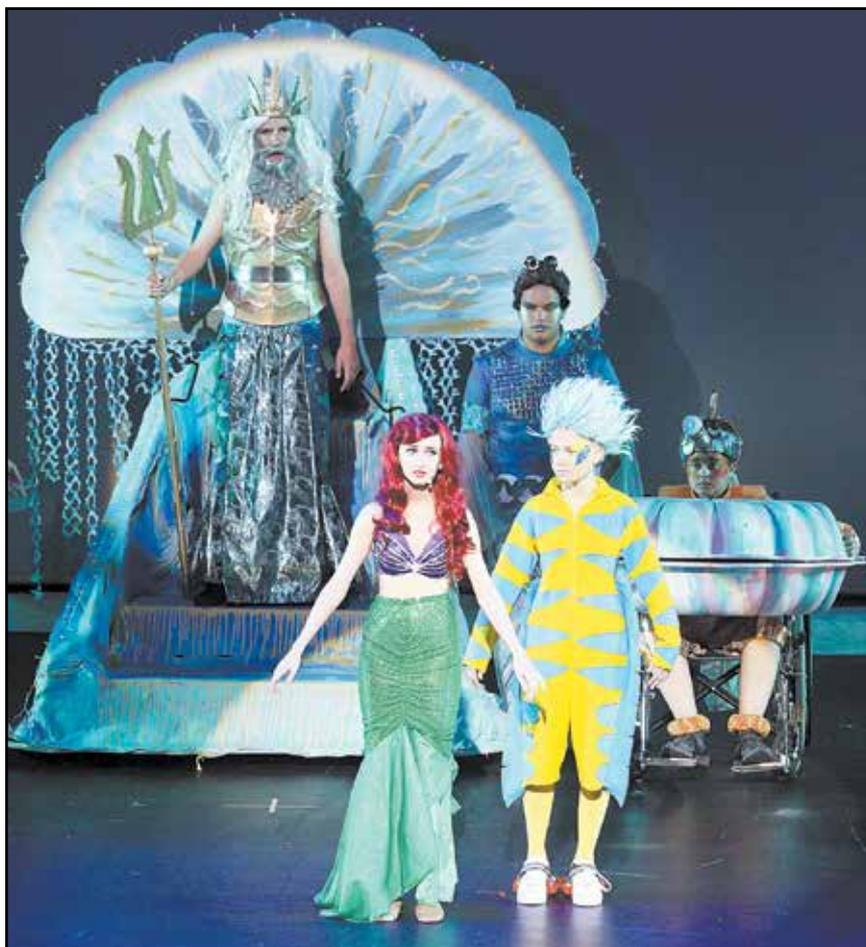
**Colourful cast...** *The Little Mermaid* actors played to packed houses

TGS Performing Arts rose to great heights and swam to great depths with the 2019 school show, Disney's *The Little Mermaid*. Four shows were staged over three days at The Bruce Mason Centre.

A highlight was the sold-out matinee with primary schools. The 1100 students and their teachers enjoyed a pre-show performance of *Baby Shark*, and an impromptu singalong to *Let It Go*. The children were in the palm of the production's hand following *The Little Mermaid* with energy and focus.



**On firm ground...**  
**Jess Arrowsmith as Ariel**  
**and Michael Self as Prince Eric**



**Fishy business...** **Jess Arrowsmith as Ariel, Caitlin Morrison as Flounder, Aidan Allen as King Triton, Max Claxton as Seahorse (seated), and Tre Tugaga as Trumpet Fish (right)**



Sealed with a kiss...  
**Jess Arrowsmith as Ariel,**  
**Michael Self as Prince Eric,**  
 with the Mersisters behind, (left to right): **Tsenate Akebergne,**  
**Sylvie Porter, Rosie McGregor,**  
**Olivia Lane and Felicity Lewis**

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# Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



# Grammar

APR 19, 2019

## Make-up at The Little Mermaid causes a splash



**Takapuna Grammar's production of *The Little Mermaid* has been a massive success, with dazzling costumes and stellar performances from all involved. Congratulations to everyone who played a part in making it happen.**



Every fantastic show comes with stunning make-up, and the Takapuna Grammar production of *The Little Mermaid* was definitely no exception.

The make-up team, led by student artists Rosie

McGregor and Siobhan Taylor, turned the actors into mermaids, sea witches and even eels. Every design had hours of hard work and dedication put into it, which was clearly reflected in the fantastic end

result. The work shown was done by the talented Rosie, who made *The Little Mermaid* even more magical with her make-up skills.

BY ANYA FRY

## New Zealand mourns

On 15 March 2019, an event occurred that will scar New Zealand's history forever and will be known as "one of New Zealand's darkest days".

There has never been such an abhorrent event on New Zealand's shores. On that Friday, there were two consecutive mosque shootings in Christchurch which led to a death toll of 50. The male shooter has appeared in court, and been charged with murder.

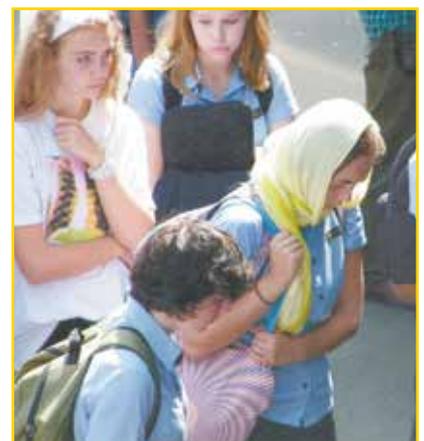
The sad thing about this act of terror, notwithstanding all the harrowing deaths, is that many of the Muslim people in our country came here to be safe, yet they weren't. That in itself is disgusting. But the fact that somebody would violate a holy place and kill all who worshipped, the youngest aged just three, makes it worse.

Even though this horrific and tragic event occurred

a month ago, and many would wish to forget a crime so horrendous, we still believe that we should keep it etched in our minds. We must remember how much this affected our people. This shooting was an act of hate and racism. There is absolutely no place for either of those in the world, let alone New Zealand.

We are all human and must try to live and share this Earth with respect and unity; we are all one people and deserve to be treated equally. The prime minister Jacinda Ardern is reaching out and supporting the many families affected by the traumatising event. The rest of New Zealand should join in these acts of support too. Takapuna Grammar school has raised over \$3500 to be given to Cashmere High School in Christchurch.

Kia kaha, be strong.



BY AI INNES-MILLS AND POPPY HERRON

# Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



# Grammar

APR 19, 2019



## Takapuna students fly high at Ultimate Frisbee nationals

From Sunday March 24th to Tuesday March 26th, TGS sent two Ultimate Frisbee teams to the renowned national competition. The New Zealand Secondary School Ultimate Championships are held annually at Owen Delaney Park, Taupo, and TGS has been sending teams for five consecutive years. Schools from all across the North Island fill the Boys, Girls and Open Divisions with their finest frisbee-snatching representatives.

"What brings a lot of people to frisbee is that there's high competition but low aggression... sportsmanship is so good," says Becky Ireland, a coach for Ultimate Frisbee at TGS. "Spirit is a really important part of Ultimate," Ireland notes, "We make sure to hype each other up, no matter what team we're on".

'Spirit circles' are common at the end of every match. Former enemies huddle together to comment on and applaud each others' performances. With the conclusion of the two-day tournament, one team from each division is voted for 'Best Spirit'. The TGS Girls Division team won this award this year.

The TGS Open Division team also fared well at this year's Ultimate Frisbee nationals, placing

fifth out of a pool of nine teams. Evan Barnes, valuable parent volunteer for four years and now head coach of the TGS Ultimate Frisbee programme, was incredibly pleased with their success.

Also pleased is Ms Tu'isila, TIC (Teacher in Charge) of Ultimate Frisbee at TGS, who comments: "I was so proud of our two teams at nationals, and how they conducted themselves on and off the field. It was a pleasure to be part of a wonderful group of young men and women."

No matter their placing, every TGS player who attended Ultimate Frisbee nationals could agree the experience was incredible. The three days were packed full not only of thrilling, fast-paced frisbee but of laughs, great snacks, and team bonding over *Bohemian Rhapsody* in the vans.

The event is summed up by Wenyi Soon, captain of the TGS Girls Division team: "Going to nationals really is a fun experience that everyone will remember!"

Training for the 2020 Ultimate Frisbee nationals begins at TGS with the close of Indoor Ultimate Frisbee Championships in term three.

BY PIPPI DUNCAN

from  
the  
*Lion's Den*

### THE LATEST IN SPORT

Fantastic results from the Ultimate Frisbee national championships last week, with **TGS Girls Ultimate** winning the Overall Spirit award in addition to placing fourth in the country, and **TGS Boys Ultimate** coming fifth in the country!

**TGS Boys Volleyball** also had a sensational summer tournament week, placing sixth in the country. Special mention to **Josh Clarke**, who was named in the national tournament team – an outstanding achievement.

**TGS Rowing** secured their best overall Maadi results for some years, with crews racing in 12 'B' finals and 2 'A' finals. Congratulations to **Evan Williams**, who raced a nail-biting final to secure the silver medal and an invitation to trial for the North Island U18 squad. Special mention also to the two **U15 Girls Octuple** crews, both of which made the 'A' final. An amazing 18 TGS students raced against the best in the country in that event.

Congratulations to the **Boys Cricket 1st XI**, whose win over Rangitoto College in their season final last week will see the team promoted to the Premier division for the 2019/2020 season.

Nice work from our **Girls Cricket 1st XI**, who played some excellent matches in last week's Auckland T20 competition, finishing third in Auckland (being the highest placed co-ed school).

Congratulations to **Joe Millington** (third in U14 Boys) and **Charlie Millington** (fifth in U17 Boys) at the North Island Schools Mountain Bike Championships at the weekend.

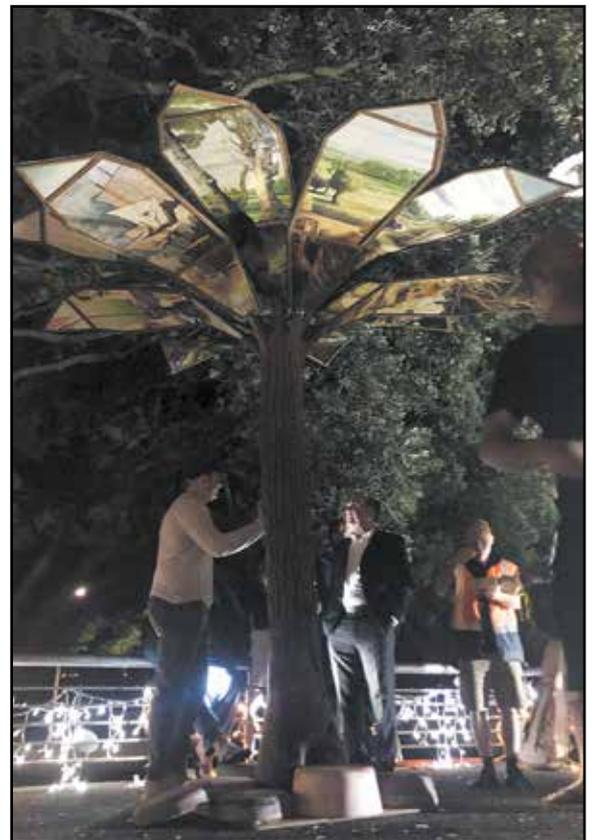
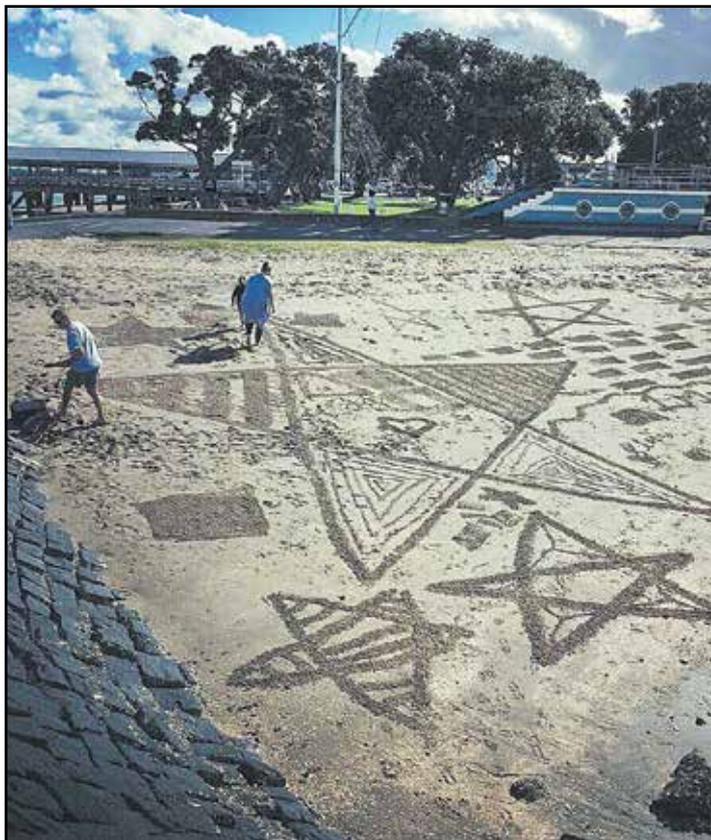
It was a good start to 2019 for our **Rugby 1st XV**, who won a closely contested pre-season match against Botany Downs College, with the final score being 22-17.

#### COMING UP...

**TGS 1st XV** vs Massey 1st XV opening game at home is being filmed live on Sky Sports on Saturday 4th of May.

Check out more and some great photos on our TGS Sports Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/TGSSports/>

# Taking art to the streets



The streets of Devonport came to life with crowds and colour for the Devonport Arts Festival held from 5 to 7 April.

The event incorporated interactive sessions, trash to art, lantern-making, sketch classes by Tony McNeight, plate-juggling and art workshops.

Performers at the event included comedic cartoonist John Carr, a flash-mob choir, AK Samba, Al the magician, Devonport School of Dance and the Wonderfish Collective, along with talks by artists Jessica Pearless and Jonathan Organ, and writer David Slack.

One of the highlights was a beach-art mural by David Hilliam, on Devonport Beach alongside Windsor Reserve.

The Devonport Arts Festival dates back to the 1950s.

#### **Arts and about in Devonport ...**

**(from facing page) Ian Pearce and Nicci Reuben (from the Chocolate Lantern Theatre Company), beach art on Devonport Beach, and a tree installation by artist Nicholas Boyd.**

**The polymites installation by Spaceinbtwn attracted a good crowd, including Zoe Smith (at right).**



# Giving a flip about mental health

Local fitness enthusiasts Tom Moore and Gareth Edwards will flip a huge tyre for 24 hours in the hope of breaking a world record and raising \$10,000 for men's mental health.

Moore (28) and Edwards (39) met while training. "It was just one of those bromances at the gym," says Edwards, who approached Moore with the idea to break the current tyre-flipping Guinness World Record. "Straight away he [Tom] was like 'yup!' But he said, let's do this for charity. Let's actually do this for something, and he immediately chose mental health."

The current tyre-flipping Guinness World Record is 20 kilometres in 24 hours with a 68kg tyre. On 20 July, Moore and Edwards are planning to complete 38km in 24 hours with a 93kg tyre, and hope to raise \$10,000 for the John Kirwan Foundation. The pair have already raised over \$1000 on their Givealittle page.

"We wanted to do something very masculine at its core and say, 'Hey, we can do this but we can also give back to this really important cause,'" says Moore. "It's now turned into something much bigger than the Guinness World Record. The more we've spoken about it the more it's been about John Kirwan."

The John Kirwan Foundation works with schools in order to give young people the tools to understand and recognise their own mental health. "Rather than being the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff, they start from the beginning," says Edwards, who is a business owner and personal trainer based in Forrest Hill.

The pair have been training for seven weeks



**Manning up for mental health... Gareth Edwards (left and below) and Tom Moore**

now, and Moore has already lost 21kg training between two-and-a-half and four hours every day.

Sponsor AUT Millennium is providing the venue for the record attempt and other sponsors are donating food and supplements. It comes at a significant time for AUT Millennium, after recently losing a prominent sportsperson to suspected suicide.

Prior to the record attempt, both men will be focusing on their strategy: working out when to eat, hydrate and rest during their 24-hour stint. A massage therapist and chiropractor will be alongside on the day to help with any injury or body stresses. "We also have to think about how it's going to affect our mental health," says Edwards.

"We are starting at midday on Saturday. Between noon and 8pm, we're gonna have loads of people there to support us. But from 10pm until 6am the next day, we will have no one saying, 'yeah you can do it.'" Edwards also explains that the great thing about doing it as a pair is that they're suffering together.

"We have to remember what we're doing this for. We have a moral obligation to our community," says Moore who spent most of his life in Devonport. He also attended Takapuna Grammar School, where he was a sports prefect and a sports team captain. He later became a TGS rowing coach and fitness instructor at Just Workout Devonport. Moore now teaches at Macleans College where he continues to be a role model to his students.

"I make an effort to wear rainbow socks and the colour pink to show that men shouldn't be put down for liking or wearing things that aren't traditionally masculine."

Over the next couple of months, Moore and Edwards will be spending hours flipping tyres to build up endurance. But they also plan to go to schools speaking about the challenge and mental health. "It doesn't matter who you are, how much money you have, mental health doesn't discriminate," they say.

• Moore and Edwards will attempt the record on Saturday, 20 July, from noon, at the AUT Millennium Gym. To donate, visit [givealittle.co.nz/cause/24-hour-tyre-flipping-for-mental-health](http://givealittle.co.nz/cause/24-hour-tyre-flipping-for-mental-health)



# Pruned palms plaster public plaza



## Emergency maintenance... arborists make the shedding palms safe

Recently pruned Phoenix palm trees began dropping large chunks of bark-like debris outside the library – with an area cordoned off until arborists came back a week later to make the plants safe.

A member of the public alerted the Flagstaff on 1 April, saying it was lucky no one was hurt. Librarians cordoned an area off around the tree and the council confirms it was notified that night.

Just before the incident, council arborists had pruned the palms and other trees in Windsor Reserve.

The pruning exposed dead frond stubs to a downpour of rain, and they most likely became waterlogged, causing material to fall, an Auckland Council spokesperson said.

It was a week before equipment was available to clear away dangerous material from all the phoenix palms in the reserve.

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