

The Devonport

Flagstaff

February 28, 2020

DELIVERED FORTNIGHTLY

AN INDEPENDENT VOICE

devonportflagstaff.co.nz

Dismay over war-grave maintenance... p3

Vauxhall School celebrates 100 years... p8-9

Interview: student activist Ruby Judson... p18

\$47 million for Lake Rd but nothing for Belmont

A \$40,000 consultation to improve Belmont Centre is underway. But while the Lake Rd improvement, have a \$47 million budget, nothing has been set aside specifi-

cally for the town centre, it has been revealed. The lack of targeted money for Belmont centre improvements stunned a number of Devonport-Takapuna Local Board members

at its meeting last week.

Separated cycleways have been confirmed in Auckland Transport's plans for Lake Rd.

To p4, and Flagstaff Notes p6

TGS rowing from strength to strength



Strong-armed... Evan Williams (left) and Jacob Davey take out the national under-17 double-sculls title, topping a winning month on the water for Takapuna Grammar School (TGS) rowers. To page 2.



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ADVERTISING DEADLINE: March 6

Rowing gold for Grammar



Winners on the water... Evan Williams (left) and Jacob Davey

Takapuna Grammar struck gold last weekend with Evan Williams and Jacob Davey winning the under-17 double sculls at the national schools rowing championships.

It's been a winning month for Williams, who also won gold in the under-18 single sculls (division one) at the Auckland championships, and placing third in the men's under-20 single sculls in the national club championships held on Lake Karapiro on 22 and 23 February.

TGS students also claimed silver nationally in the female intermediate coxed quadruple sculls (Imogen Butcher, Annabelle Knowles, Skye Lang, Daisy Butcher and Nicolette Grant), bronze in the male novice double sculls (Fritze Andrae and Dylan Chamberlain) and bronze in the male intermediate coxed quad sculls (Connor Bacchus, Mika Hessling, Sam Barningham, Oliver Ng and Jacob Hamlin).

Meanwhile, at a Lake Pupuke regatta on 15 February, TGS rowed its way to 15 podium finishes and 52 medals and was crowned 2020 Auckland Head of the Harbour champions.

Thirty-one schools and 854 athletes competed in 108 races, with the TGS girls crews collectively finishing third overall and the boys placing fourth.

Among top results, Annabelle Knowles and Skye Lang won the girls under-15 double sculls (division one) and TGS teams won the boys under-16 coxed double sculls (division one), girls under-17 coxed quad sculls (division one) and girls under-15 coxed octuple sculls (division one).

3 Victoria Rd: empty for 599 days

The old Devonport Borough Council Building at 3 Victoria Rd became vacant on 9 July 2018.

It has now been unoccupied for 599 days. Auckland Council development arm Panuku is working through the future options for the building.



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Cemetery 'needs heritage plan and better maintenance'



Care required... Devonport RSA's Chris Mullane, pictured with his dog Rocci, would like the council to look after all the graves at the O'Neill's Point cemetery, some of which are derelict

Dilapidated war graves at Bayswater's O'Neill's Point cemetery are in for a spruce-up ahead of Anzac Day, with a former RSA president labelling those with falling headstones "a disgrace".

While the council maintains grass and weeds, a heritage plan and better care for the whole cemetery are needed, RSA member Chris Mullane says.

If the families of the deceased are in Auckland, especially Pacific Island families, they tend to care for the graves, he says. However, the descendants of some people buried in the cemetery may not be in the country or there may be no descendants, Mullane says.

The historic cemetery has a number of military graves. Of those, 53 are maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. However, the organisation only cares for the tombs of soldiers who died within set timeframes after the wars.

The grave of a soldier who died from injuries even a day outside the time frames would not be maintained – which doesn't seem fair, Mullane says.

A group of volunteers has formed to look after military graves and its local chapter, the New Zealand Remembrance Army, is working with the Devonport RSA and the Navy on a Bayswater working bee.

Organiser Rebecca Nelson is aiming for the clean-up of the cemetery's military graves to be held in March, ahead of Anzac Day, although the date was still to be confirmed at press time.

Volunteers will be trained on how to do the work in a respectful manner. Where possible,

the RSA is contacting families ahead of the working bee.

As preparation, RSA and Navy personnel have collated records of soldiers and family members of soldiers in the cemetery.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member George Wood raised the issue of the state of the cemetery at an 18 February board meeting, leading to a discussion of the need for a heritage plan for it and the cemetery on Takarunga.

Wood told the Flagstaff he is dismayed by the state of the cemetery lychgate, an old-English style of covered gate where pall-bearers can pause in wet weather. Its boards are coming apart and the apex is held

together with plastic tape.

Wood would like to see maintenance on the lychgate, a rotting fence, and in places where weeds and trees are destroying graves and paths.

Bayswater used to be called O'Neill's Point after the family that farmed there, several generations of whom are buried in the cemetery.

Auckland Council did not respond to questions by deadline.

If you have a family member who served in the military and is buried in the cemetery, or you would like to volunteer at a working bee, email the Devonport RSA at office@devonportrsa.co.nz

Family saddened at state of veteran's grave

A Cook Islands family has raised \$2000 to restore the headstone of a war veteran's grave after they were dismayed at its state of neglect.

Sergeant Beni Banaba left the Cook Islands to join the New Zealand army in World War 1, serving in Palestine and Egypt.

He died at the Narrow Neck military camp in 1917 and was buried at O'Neill's Point Cemetery.

When the family visited his headstone in 2019, they were disturbed by what they found.

"The headstone was old and dilapidated, words were old and worn, as if the mana of our tupuna was losing its status," family member Theresa Tarani Greig says.

Conjecture surrounded whether the grave was being cared for by government agencies, with the family getting advice that it wasn't.

So they decided to refurbish the grave themselves.

"Bullets don't discriminate," Tarani Greig says.

The family is holding a ceremony to unveil the grave on Anzac Day.

Separated cycle lanes confirmed as Lake Rd priorities take shape

Protected cycle lanes along Lake Rd are a priority in the \$47 million upgrade of the arterial route, according to Auckland Transport (AT).

The Flagstaff revealed the cycleway plans last November, after obtaining documents under the Official Information Act.

The move towards separate cycle lanes is confirmed in papers AT presented to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board earlier this month.

“Safety is a major focus for AT, so the improvements aim to make people using Lake Rd safer, regardless of their mode of travel,” AT says.

With high volumes of traffic, this means physically protected cycle lanes, safer pedestrian crossings and safer intersections are needed,” the memo from AT manager of strategic projects Daniel Newcombe said.

“It is worth noting, of the 28 serious crashes in the area over the last 10 years, 10 of the

casualties were pedestrians or cyclists.”

The Lake Rd upgrade has been in the pipeline for years, and has moved from being primarily a project to move more cars along Lake Rd to a more holistic approach to transport.

“The proposed improvements will give travellers within the Devonport Peninsula more genuine travel choices,” Newcombe said. “Feedback from the community was that people desired ways of travelling locally without having to rely on a car and getting caught up in traffic congestion.”

AT’s proposed improvements include:

- New transit lanes targeting the most congested parts of Esmonde Rd and Lake Rd.
- Upgrading the existing Lake Rd cycle lanes to make them safer.
- Implementing new cycle lanes on Bayswater Ave.

• Upgrading the Belmont shops area (in conjunction with Auckland Council).

- Safer and more efficient intersections.
- New technology (such as electronic road signs and apps) to provide travellers with up-to-date information.

“AT’s emerging concepts are targeted to be delivered over the next few years, without requiring additional land or substantial roadworks,” Newcombe said.

AT is also investigating the possibility of undergrounding power lines on Lake Rd in the vicinity of Takapuna Grammar.

Further consultation with the public will take place in March and April, then the proposals will be refined before a final plan is completed in mid-2020. Detailed design would then start in 2020/2021, with construction to follow.

Belmont centre snag: “Where’s the money?” asks local-board member

Plans to redevelop the Belmont centre, alongside the Lake Rd upgrade, are well advanced, but Auckland Transport (AT) has admitted a likely hitch with funding.

Seeing an opportunity to improve Belmont as part of the Lake Rd upgrade, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board put \$40,000 towards an improvement plan.

AT has been meeting with residents and businesses in the area and come up with ideas to improve Belmont. The plan would include creating a slow-speed environment, with improved pedestrian crossings; increasing and improving public spaces; increasing the prominence of the Rose Gardens and expanding and upgrading other public spaces; integrated bus stops; and incorporating redeveloped buildings and shops, which will make use of new building-height allowances.

However an AT report says the \$47 million budget for Lake Rd improvements is confined

to just that.

“This is limited to the core transport improvements. Funding of streetscape upgrades and work substantially beyond the core transport improvements will not be covered by the budget,” a report to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board said.

Board member Trish Deans was shocked by the revelation, saying if the project was not in council’s budget it wouldn’t be progressed. “Where’s the money?” Deans said.

AT’s leader of the Lake Rd project Daniel Newcombe muddied the waters somewhat, telling the board there was a possibility of some of the \$47 million could be left over for Belmont improvements. It depended on the final costings of the Lake Rd plan, and also the cost of the Belmont improvements.

Toni van Tonder said the consultation with the public and others over the project had been extremely positive.

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Bill, aged 92, stumps up for alumni match

Takapuna Grammar 1st XI boys played an Alumni XI cricket game on Waitangi Day with 92-year-old Bill Crump, the star of the show. Crump, arrived in playing whites from 1945, his last year at TGS.

After leaving school, he played for 16 years at North Shore Cricket Club, alongside the likes of Jack Cowie and Verdun Scott.

TGS cricketers through the generations... Bill Crump (centre) with (left) Jack Clough (class of 2021), who captained TGS for the game, and Hamish Grant (class of 2007), who captained the Alumni



Photo: Gillian Scott

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By Rob Drent

The realities of Devonport-Takapuna Local Board representation hit home to new members last week when the zero budget for improvements to the Belmont centre were revealed.

During the board's previous term, members strategically set aside \$40,000 to integrate changes and improvements to Belmont to dovetail in with the \$47 million being spent by Auckland Transport on Lake Rd.

Eminently sensible planning by the board, until it was revealed last week – deep into the consultation process – that there is actually no money to pay for any changes at Belmont, other than work on Lake Rd itself.

Council tends to forget that the residents, business owners and other "stakeholders" often put many hours of their own time into these consultations, while council officers

and board members are all paid.

Two decades ago, at least two lengthy community consultations were held over a proposed Bayswater ferry terminal. Plans were drawn up, but 20 years later, nothing has happened. The terminal plan has effectively been mothballed – it's on the council books, but not in its 10-year budget.

I wonder how those people who put in consultation hours on the terminal feel now about the wasted time.

The 2020 bean counters at Auckland Council would say consultation comes first, followed by costings, then business case, then budget.

I go back to the simple houseowner comparison. How many residents would spend money on architect's plans to renovate their home if they didn't have a budget for the improvements?

My worry is the local-board attempt to get all the work at Belmont and Lake Rd done together will come to nought, especially with the pressure to spent any spare rates money in West and South Auckland.

Some older residents will remember the North Shore City Clean Beaches campaign

20 years ago, during current local-board member George Wood's tenure as mayor. The official line was no spending on anything else but infrastructure repairs as people wanted clean beaches.

We ran full-page advertisements in the Flagstaff on council progress cleaning up an antiquated sewerage system. Main pipework was replaced, and residents perhaps recall getting their property connections to the main sewer line – and having to call a plumber to tinker around with gully traps to stop stormwater getting in. A huge amount was spent on improving pump stations between Devonport and Takapuna and the wider network.

Flash forward 20 years, and Takapuna Beach is still polluted to a degree unpalatable to most residents. I can't get much sense out of council on the work done 20 years ago. Either it wasn't done well enough and there are still residual faults. Or, in the interim, council hasn't been vigilant enough policing new or potentially illegal connections to the system. It could be a combination of both. Either way, council needs to take greater responsibility historically for the mess we are in today.

It was like one of those fish-falling-from-the-skies scenes from the Ripley's *Believe It or Not* series.

A reader called in to alert us to a dozen or so crayfish of various sizes scattered on rocks between the Calliope Sea Scouts hall and Devonport Yacht Club.

She was planning to ring authorities to check if the crays had died from pollution, but suspected they were the remains of an over-the-legal-limit catch dumped by a fisherman spooked by the possible apprehension by fisheries officers. I tend to support the dumping scenario. Overfishing is no doubt rife.

Entertain the kids (and yourselves!) on Saturday, 7 March with:

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NEW LISTING



Devonport 36 Calliope Road

Versatile villa close to the village

From the street this classic 1902 villa with its ornate filigree has all the hallmarks of its bygone era, but when you step inside you will feel the difference. Whilst the villa character has been retained, the home has been very stylishly renovated throughout. It is light-filled, spacious and offers so much more than the classic villa layout. The welcoming entrance draws you into the family living at heart of the home, which flows out to a wonderfully sunny north-facing deck with views out over the garden below. The upper floor offers wonderful spaces to be together as a family, as well as three bedrooms but the real extra is what you get downstairs - it's almost another home! With its own entrance, two bedrooms plus living area it is perfect for visiting friends and family or Airbnb.

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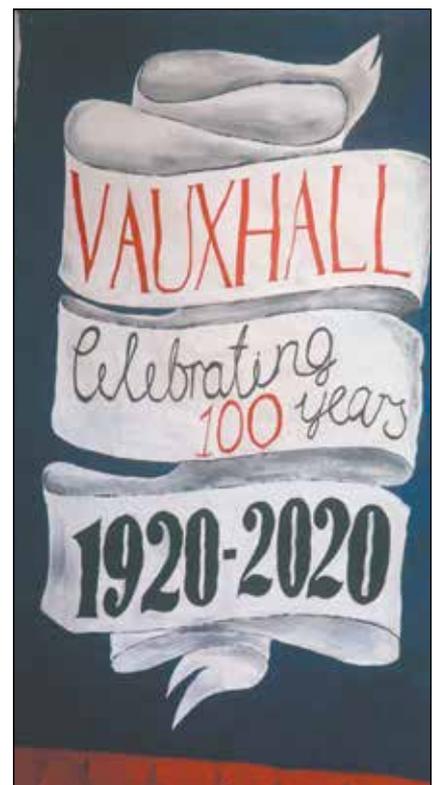
School centenary celebrated with guests and kapa haka



With one voice... Kapa haka performers to the fore



Celebration assembly... Vauxhall principal Gary Lawrence with long-serving deputy principal Sue Roberts



Memories include WWII swims and a risky ‘tree challenge’

A former All Black, a cross-Tasman rower and the current TGS head girl all shared memories of their Vauxhall School days at a centenary assembly.

Don McKay, Shaun Quincey and Catherine Fairbairn, joined former principals Jenny Anstiss, Maggie Twaddle, Peter Mulcahy and Aaron Kemp as special guests at the assembly.

Time capsules were also opened by former pupils at the school who placed them in 1995 – the school’s 75th anniversary.

McKay, a 1961-63 All Black and former long-time pharmacist at Hauraki Corner, said his years at Vauxhall School were some of the best of his life. When people asked where he went to school, he said Vauxhall Primary. “They would say, ‘what about secondary?’ and I’d say everything is secondary to Vauxhall.”

Some of his time as a student at Vauxhall were during the Second World War. He recalled air-raid shelter drills and the Home Guard taking pupils swimming once a week at Narrow Neck Beach, which was fenced off with barbed wire during the war. Local kids still went swimming every day, said McKay. “We knew all the weak spots [in the fencing].”

He remembered swimming laps at the opening of Vauxhall School’s pool, then the first one to be built at a primary school in New Zealand.

McKay encouraged kids at the school to have big dreams. He dreamed of becoming a pharmacist and an All Black and both eventuated.

Quincey, who rowed solo from Australia to New Zealand, remembered one of his early days at Vauxhall, when he drew on the carpet with a crayon and started crying. His teacher said: “Tears aren’t going to get the mark out of the carpet Shaun...”

He also took part in the Vauxhall School tree challenge – in which adventurers would climb from tree to tree around the school’s perimeter. He fell out of the trees on two separate occasions, breaking his right and left arm.

The emphasis on reading, writing and music, “and the open-plan classrooms” were very special, recalled Quincey.

Fairbairn said she discovered numerous native tree names within her first few days, learnt how to play netball and made friends for life with fellow students.

A significant change during Twaddle’s tenure as principal (1997-2001) was co-opting male members of the Navy to help out with sports coaching at lunchtimes, as the school had no male teachers at the time. Vauxhall was the first school to have a sleepover at the Navy marae.

Mulcahy (2001-2005) said Vauxhall was the first school to adopt Travelwise (walking school buses) across the Shore and received a national award from the government.

The time capsules were full of sealed tubes decorated by students. Inside the tubes were letters, pieces of work, photos, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia that the students of 1995 had sent to themselves to open in 2020. In a number of student workbooks, the children had written about themselves.

Principal Gary Lawrence said: “Our ex-stu-



Legacy... former principals (from left) Maggie Twaddle, Peter Mulcahy, Aaron Kemp, and Jenny Anstiss and are welcomed onto Vauxhall School grounds



**Blast from the past... Shaun Quincey, with tubes sealed in 1995 by pupils
Right: Former All Black Don McKay**



dents are coming into school to open and explore their capsules. We are then going to be sharing the time capsules with all our children and they will be using them in class as resources and inspiration for many of the learning experiences we have in store this year as part of our 2020 centenary school theme of ‘changes’.”



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Devonport 7 North Avenue

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Beauty And The Beach

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Rowan Renouf

M 021 736 683 P 09 446 2105
rowan.renouf@harcourts.co.nz

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NEW LISTING



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Architectural Belmont Beauty
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NEW LISTING



Belmont 1 Te One Place

4 2 1 1 1

Architecturally Designed Family Living
This inviting four bedroom freehold property evokes the best of coastal living, with driftwood-inspired natural timber cladding and brick veneer accenting a modern architecturally designed home. Two thoughtfully designed levels make stunning use of space maximising living areas. The open plan living area is perfect for relaxing and entertaining.

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NEW LISTING



Belmont 3 Te One Place

2 1 1 1 1

Affordable Entry To Coastal Living
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Devonport 173 Vauxhall Road

6 3 1 1 2

Bungalow By The Beach

- 4 large bedrooms
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Devonport 1 Achilles Crescent

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On 556m², this Narrow Neck home is bound to tick all boxes! Large and spacious, perfect for entertainers, a great park just 6 houses away and Narrow Neck Beach a short walk! So handy to all the schools, buses, shops. This home really will give that all important family lifestyle so many seek!

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5 3 2 3 1

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2 1 1 1 1

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A winning combination is right here, just a very short walk from the sands of Narrow Neck beach! This is one of the last properties left in this sought-after location that offers a very cute, comfortable, traditional bungalow that sits proudly at the back of a large site commanding an uninterrupted view over the Waitemata golf course.

Tender

Closes 5th March at 4.00pm (unless sold prior)
View as advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22822

Maria Stevens
M 021 979 084 P 09 446 2111
maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 31b Stanley Point Road

3 2 2 1 2

Views, Privacy And Sunshine!

- AUCTION SUNDAY 10.45AM
- Stunning single level home
- Unique 1950's style architecture
- Intimate views over Stanley Bay
- Large double garaging
- Wonderful flow to outdoor areas

Auction

On site, 1st March at 10.45am (USP)
View as advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22828

Diana Murray
M 021 911522
Ian Cunliffe
M 027 227 9322
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FINAL WEEK

Devonport 36 Church Street

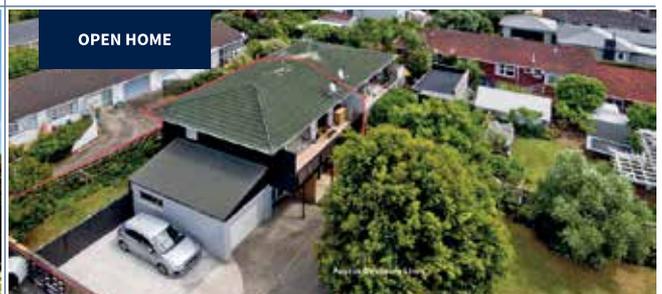
4 3 3 2 1

Spacious Central Devonport Villa
This very generous Edwardian villa offers relaxed family living over three levels with options to suit the largest of families. As this charming home unfolds, you will appreciate its heart. A large open plan living area where the family congregate spilling out through French doors to a spacious veranda. Perfect to relax, enjoy a coffee and the commanding views across to Rangitoto and the Gulf.

Auction

On site, 8th March at 1.00pm (USP)
View Sat/Sun 1 - 1.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22745

Glenice Taylor
M 021 943 021
Gary Potter
M 021 953 021
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OPEN HOME

Devonport 3/57 Lake Road

4 2 2 1 2

Winning Investment - Irresistible Value

- Entry level sensational Devonport buying
- Fully renovated attached townhouse
- Modern split level accommodation
- Outstanding rental returns
- Convenient location near transport, shops & Narrow Neck Beach
- Very rare silver lined opportunity to capitalize on

For Sale \$1,150,000

View Sunday 1.00 - 1.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22796

Peter Restall
M 021 808 808 P 09 446 2114
peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz
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Belmont 40 Montgomery Ave

3 2 2 1 2

Large Character Bungalow
This home is a beautiful character 1920s bungalow packed with character features. Offering 3 bedrooms, two living areas, (open plan kitchen and dining/living), formal dining, two bathrooms and wide hallway, this really is a home for multi-use requirements and would suit many. Come and take a look at this wonderful, rare opportunity, with city views!

For Sale \$1,750,000
View as advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22682

Jane Hastings
M 021 735 263 P 09 446 2116
Jackie Mark
M 021 458 797 P 09 446 2113
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Bayswater 5 Beresford Street

3 2 1 1 4

Classic Kiwi Beach House
This waterfront paradise is a hidden treasure on Bayswater Point - a private 979m² garden of joy, facing north for all day sun. Absolute water's edge with framed views over the sparkling Waitemata Harbour and your own stairs to the water. On the market for the first time in 60 years, this home is now ready for a new lease of life, love and laughter messing about in boats and kayaks.

For Sale
By Negotiation
View as advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22666

Rowan Renouf
M 021 736 683 P 09 446 2105
rowan.renouf@harcourts.co.nz
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OPEN HOME

Bayswater 11 Beresford Street

5 3 2 1 1

Hamptons Style Waterfront Home

- Stunning waterfront home
- Five large bedrooms
- Boat house on the waters edge
- Large lawn area leading to the sea
- Fully renovated

For Sale \$3,395,000
View Saturday 2.00-2.45pm.
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22655

Ian Cunliffe
M 027 227 9322 P 09 446 2107
Diana Murray
M 021 911522 P 09 446 2115
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Devonport 18 Wairoa Road

5 3 2 2 3

A Great Family Home

- Fantastic Cheltenham location
- Separate studio accommodation
- Solid brick family home
- Large back lawn
- Wonderful indoor outdoor flow

For Sale
By Negotiation
View as advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22634

Ian Cunliffe
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Diana Murray
M 021 911522 P 09 446 2115
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Devonport 11 North Avenue

3 2 3 1 1

Stunning Narrow Neck Villa
This is your opportunity to live in a wonderful location. Wander down to Narrow Neck Beach, or just along the road to cafes and transport links. This renovated home is a mixture of style, luxury and casual living. The private back garden is bathed in sun, the perfect place if you would like a pool...

Auction
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(unless sold prior)
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rowan.renouf@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 16 Empire Road

5 2 1 1 2

Superb Home, Stunning Location
Empire Road is the perfect place to drop anchor and start to enjoy the idyllic lifestyle that the seaside suburb of Devonport has on offer. Within walking distance of the amenity filled village and CBD ferry service, this substantial residence has a building floor area of approximately 190m² and rests on a flat north facing 604m² site with a double garage and large storage mezzanine.

For Sale
By Negotiation
View www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22747

Ian Cunliffe
M 027 227 9322
Grant Speedy
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Victoria Mules | **Jemma Glancy**
M: 021 679 349 | M: 021 246 5300
oneoneroa@harcourts.co.nz
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Tyres vandalised on Victoria Rd

On Friday 14 February, I was staying overnight with a sick friend at 66 Victoria Rd. On Saturday morning, after driving a short distance, I noticed something amiss with the car.

Two tyres were flat. I called the AA and they found the tyres had been stabbed with a sharp knife. Later, a neighbour told me he called 111 in the early hours of Saturday morning and confronted a group of goons who had climbed up the bank near my car, ripping foliage. Then he discovered damage to his car parked on Kerr St. I have a 'disabled' sign in my car but that did not deter

the miscreants. I have reported it to police, and it is considered a burglary as it was on private property

My insurance does not cover my tyres, and the neighbour is not covered either, so it has been a very expensive exercise for an elderly pensioner.

Judy McGrath

Tourist buses swarm Takarunga summit

On Anniversary Day, I saw four tourist buses at one time on Mt Takarunga. Would this be the reason for shutting out the locals ?

Alec Hill

A name change for the Flagstaff too?

Following his "recent walk along the Holylford track", Managing Editor Rob Drent's name-change epiphany extended, so he reveals in his 14 February editorial, beyond Mt Victoria and North Head to include King Edward Pde and Queens Pde also. The latter two because, he feels, "these names have increasingly less relevance as our connection to Britain fades".

Well, Rob's memory may be fading with passing years, but history is history. The connection with Britain will always be there, whether the Managing Editor likes it or not. Hopefully that decision won't be his. Maybe Rob should reflect on something he can change, like the rather 'imperial' title of his own news sheet - "The Devonport Flagstaff"?

John Robertson

What's achieved by painting over the past?

I've not put electronic pen to paper for a while, but a part of your editorial in the 14 February edition piqued my interest.

You mention in your piece a number of road names in the area that have been changed over time, but without the attendant backstory as to why and how those changes were made.

You then go on to suggest that maybe it's time to change the name of King Edward Pde and Queens Pde - based, it would seem, on the fading connection to Britain.

Surely, this is attempting to block out a relevant time in the evolution and history of not only Devonport, but of New Zealand as a whole?

Whilst there is much to regret with a backward glance at the worst excesses of colonialism, it is still an important phase in the development of the area in which we live. What would be achieved by changing the names of these local roads, other than denying their relevance to the place we all call home?

I'm a fan of looking forward rather than backward, whilst respecting the phases of history prior to our time here. I'm not sure what you would achieve by attempting to paint over an important link to Britain that has existed for over 200 years and, with the advent of Brexit, has every chance of flourishing again in the future - at least in terms of trade.

Tim Lofts

Another local maunga's Maori name

It is heart-warming to read that the Devonport Flagstaff will henceforth use only the Māori names for our celebrated local maunga.

It would also be good to acknowledge Takararo, aka Mt Cambria.

Indeed, the three volcanoes were originally named Takararo (the hill below), Takarunga (the hill above) and Takapuna (the hill with the spring), now known as Maungauika, the spring no longer in evidence.

Red Lunday de Waal

Harcourts Devonport Tides

Harcourts
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Fri Feb 28			Sat Feb 29			Sun Mar 1			Mon Mar 2			Tue Mar 3			Wed Mar 4			Thu Mar 5					
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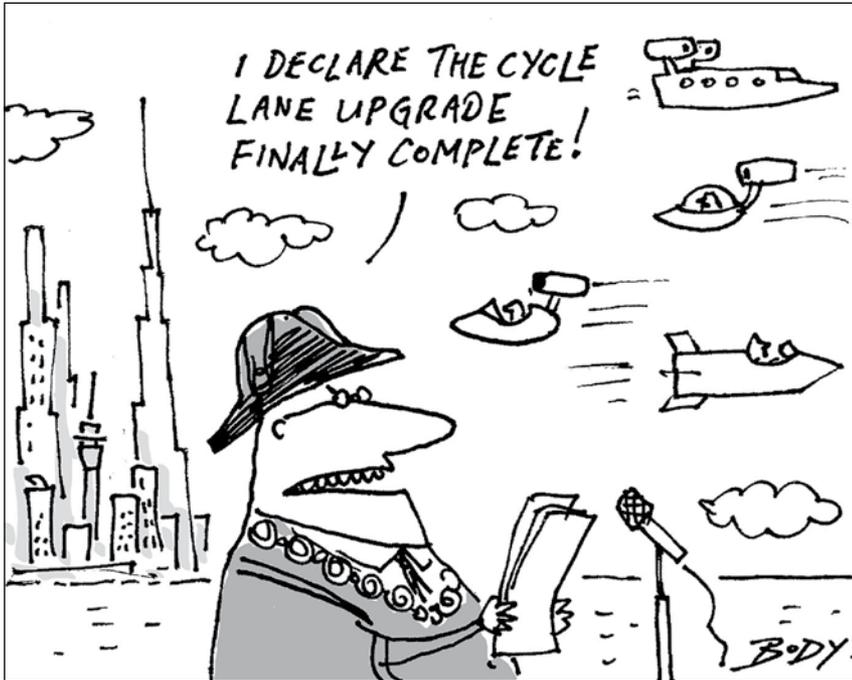
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Bodyline – With Guy Body



Letters to the Editor

Letters are welcome. They should be on Devonport-related topics. Nom-de-plumes or submissions without a name will not be printed. Email to news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz or post to Devonport Flagstaff, PO Box 32 275, Devonport.



OUT&ABOUT

Maria Teape Community Coordinator
445 9533 | maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

SONIC

Friday 6 March, 7:00pm–10:00pm
Band Rotunda, Windsor Reserve, Devonport
Sonic is a new outdoor music event happening in Devonport this summer. This youth-led event is a collaboration between local high-school students and the wider community, creating an all-ages event with a unique voice. Featuring a line-up of young and emerging artists, Sonic will showcase a range of Tāmaki Makarau’s finest new pop, soul and funk acts. Line-up includes: LOU’ANA, Gretel, Holly Afoa

KIDS ATHLETICS SERIES

Tuesdays, until 24 Mar, 4pm–6pm
Vauxhall Sports Reserve (rugby club grounds)
Primary school aged kids can have a go at a variety of athletic activities for free in a non-competitive environment including high jump, long jump, running races, agility games and more.
For more info contact Maria or Carolyn ph: 445 9533 or email: maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

SUMMER FUN PRESCHOOL PLAY MORNINGS

Tuesdays (@ Windsor Reserve) & Thursdays (@ Bayswater Park), 9:30am–11:00am
Summer Fun Preschool Play mornings are a fun time for preschoolers to play with big toys, be active and make new friends. Caregiver supervision is required, and sessions are weather dependent.
For more info, visit devonportpeninsulatrust.nz. Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with any changes.

STREET GET-TOGETHERS

Devonport Peninsula Trust has some funding available to encourage people living in the Devonport peninsula area (Devonport to Hauraki Corner) to get together with their neighbours to develop neighbourhood connections.
For further info please contact Maria on ph: 445 9533 or email maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

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

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

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Teen's hopes for a better world go global

Ruby Judson is passionate about working for change – and is getting some great opportunities to spread her messages, here and overseas. Helen Vause talks to the 13-year-old Takapuna Grammar student about her determination to make a difference – and her admiration for that other young activist, Greta Thunberg.

Ruby Judson is a girl on a mission to change the world. And with a growing list of presentations and national conferences coming up in just the first half of this year, she's taking determined steps to get her message out there.

First stop it's the capital, then the US, and maybe Finland next.

This week, Ruby was proudly – and excitedly – taking her place alongside the line-up of policymakers, leaders, artists and “doers and thinkers” from many cultures who convened at a conference in Wellington with an international focus on the many vexing social issues of our world.

The Talanoa Mau – ‘We need to Talk’ conference at Te Papa is part of Wellington's annual Festival of the Arts.

She told the conference: “I am Ruby Judson, I'm 13, and I am working hard on a long-term project to help young people celebrate the strengths that unite us and the differences that make us unique. I believe that conversations and deep listening are the only way to destroy prejudice.”

Working hard is something of an understatement for this highly motivated teenager who has a very intimidating ‘to do’ list.

Ruby says her passion for making change was ignited in 2018, when she had the opportunity to be one of four Kiwi kids selected to attend a month-long camp in Indonesia, run by the organisation Children's International Summer Villages (CISV).

The concept behind the camps is to foster intercultural understanding and friendship as a step towards world peace, by bringing



Spreading the word... Ruby Judson and her teammates are off to Boston after winning a problem-solving competition

together kids from across the world to learn, to make lasting friends and to become ambassadors within youth.

Everyone selected was 11 years old at the time. “It's an age when you are open to change,” says Ruby.

It was the “best month of my life,” she says of the experience, where she started to build an international network of like-minded kids.

“It opened my eyes and made me notice. When I returned home I was frustrated by some of the things I had seen and heard around me. But I was also hopeful that life doesn't have to be like this. Young people are naturally empathetic and there is a

potential for a kind and peaceful world.”

When the Flagstaff caught up with Ruby, she was taking time out from her conference preparations to pack for a weekend camp with a local offshoot of CISV.

Ruby is a third-generation Devonport girl, but her family has just returned after a couple of years living in Mangawhai in time for her to start secondary school at Takapuna Grammar.

It was while they were living further north that Ruby grabbed the chance to be part of a change-making exercise through the Future Problem Solving competitions that challenge kids internationally to come up with scenarios and solutions.

Ruby and her team at Mangawhai School were the national winners, and they'll be competing together again at Massachusetts University in Boston in June.

Last year, Ruby and her team of five 12-year-old classmates found their winning theme in the aftermath of the Christchurch terror attack, and started to put together their entry for the problem-solving challenge.

“The attack was terrifying and I was horrified that it happened in New Zealand. At first I thought this could never happen anywhere near the small Northland town I was living in. But the more I investigated prejudice in Mangawhai, the more I found that hateful stereotyping existed there. And Northland also has the highest youth suicide rate in the world.

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Dennis Hale & Nathan Hale

“Seemingly insignificant, casual racist and prejudiced remarks dehumanise people and disconnect us. Prejudice makes us feel painfully alone.”

Realising that all was not well in their own backyard, the primary-school team began working on a concept that they hope will be developed as a system to connect young people to break down prejudice, challenge stereotypes and celebrate diversity.

The tight problem-solving school group may have been children, but between them they had a range of skills and stories. One of the team had worked through gender change from girl to boy and was concerned about attitudes to gender diversity; another boy had been angered by the anti-gay sentiments he was hearing at school; another was a musician who wrote a song to accompany a video they produced to help carry their message to other young people.

The kids conducted community surveys and interviewed leading figures in their region in health and education. They called community meetings to try to explore local attitudes, and discovered that getting like-minded people together was easier than attracting others in the community who they believed could be promoting prejudices.

“We were really shocked by some of the awful comments we did collect anonymously from people who used comment boxes we put out to express racial and other strong prejudices.”

Their winning entry from the competition

is envisaged to be a resource for schools and young people.

They came up with a series of child-friendly ‘strength cards’ with each card featuring a quality such as resilience, courage, honesty or creativity to be used in groups to encourage discussions to explore personal strengths.

Ruby designed the cards, which could carry a QR code to link to a website where kids will be able to hear stories about others successfully building on their personal strengths.

Ruby hopes the cards will be published and a website launched and that she will be taking the workshop concept around New Zealand schools to encourage kids to talk about diversity in society.

She sees the project as a resource for schools that has been developed by kids to support and encourage youth to examine their thinking and be part of making change.

A lot of work lies ahead for Ruby and her group though, and despite her passion, she acknowledges she’s taking on more than an adult-sized challenge.

The next date in the spotlight for Ruby and her problem-solving crew is at the New Zealand Institute of Wellbeing and Resilience national conference for educators in April.

Then it’s presenting in Boston, possibly followed by another youth summer camp in Finland.

So how will she keep all these balls in the air and keep up with the regular life of

a teen schoolgirl.

“I’m very determined,” says Ruby. And that’s her message to other kids who’d like to be part of the movement for social change that’s calling increasingly younger kids worldwide.

“Just find something that you are really passionate about. When things get difficult it’s easier to keep going when your heart is really in it. You just have to keep going and going and never give up. You have to have hope too. At 13 it can be hard to keep up optimism and hope.”

Unsurprisingly, Ruby is a big fan of the Swedish climate activist and Nobel Peace Prize nominee, 17-year-old Greta Thunberg.

“It’s incredible to see how much hate she gets sometimes. But then you realise it is because she is being heard and she is making a difference and challenging how people are thinking.”

No one has to look far for examples of what Ruby is talking about changing, she says: “I was on the bus back from school last week and my friend was talking about how, because of the coronavirus, every time an Asian-looking person walks past her, she covers her mouth with her top. And she said that if someone Asian sat next to her at school she would move.

“Racism isn’t something we can easily escape. Racists aren’t always the monsters in the corner. Prejudice and racism are made up of fear and lack of knowledge. That’s something that can affect all of us.”



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Faith Goodwin

M 022 522 8868 P 09 486 9224
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Familiar faces vie to replace Maggie Barry

Past and present local politicians Joseph (Joe) Bergin and Danielle Grant have confirmed they are seeking selection as the National Party candidate in the true-blue North Shore seat.

Former National cabinet minister Maggie Barry, who has held the seat since 2011, announced last November that she would retire from politics at this year's general election. Nominations for the National candidacy were due to close last week. A candidate-selection meeting will be held on 12 March.

Grant is in her third term on the Kaipatiki Local Board, is currently deputy chair and was previously chair of the board in a shared term.

She also worked as a communications advisor in Maggie Barry's North Shore of-

fice, helping constituents and liaising with government agencies, such as Housing New Zealand and Inland Revenue.

In her time with Kaipatiki Local Board, she has advocated for better coordination of public transport to solve issues of congestion, driven discretionary funding of \$50,000 per year to work with individual Wairau Valley businesses on plans to stop polluting the creek and Milford Beach, supported pest-free initiatives and been involved in responses to kauri dieback.

Bergin, a Takapuna resident, was 18 when first elected to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board in 2010 and served two terms.

In that time, Bergin, now 27, served for 18 months as chair, sharing the term with

Mike Cohen.

The Devonport Library and Takapuna Beach playground were built in that time, plus a lease signed for Shore Junction youth innovation hub.

Meanwhile, the council's bid to develop Takapuna Beach Holiday Park was defeated amid community uproar.

Bergin, who is now working as a lawyer specialising in resource management and large projects for Buddle Findlay, is proud of gains for youth in his tenure, including Shore Junction and the Local Economic Development Action Plan, which addressed youth employment and under-employment.

Bergin is on the Shore Junction steering group and chairs the North Shore Fund.

Rose Centre mooted for community forum

Community forums, where residents can bend their local politicians' ears on matters such as Lake Rd congestion or weed control, may be held in different locations in the area.

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board discussed options, including Belmont's Rose Centre and Sunnynook Community Centre, at its 11 February public-excluded workshop.

Members agreed to trial one off-site meeting this year, with the aim of reaching a wider cross-section of the community.

The Rose Centre could possibly attract

some of the young families in the area, a report to the workshop said.

The meetings are usually held at 1 The Strand, Takapuna.

If the board finds the off-site forum successful, it will look at two off-site meetings in 2021.

A final decision will be made at the board's March meeting.

Rose Centre manager John Davies had not been approached about hosting a community forum, but thought it was a good idea.

Potential bowling club users will be asked to register interest

Expressions of interest will be sought soon from potential lessees of the former Devonport Bowling club at Devonport Domain.

Auckland Council officers will then report back to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

Tūpuna Maunga Authority Consultation Draft Tūpuna Maunga Operational Plan 2020/2021

The Tūpuna Maunga Authority welcomes public feedback on the Draft Tūpuna Maunga Operational Plan 2020/2021, which sets out the Authority's expectations for the management of the Tūpuna Maunga of Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland and associated projects and programmes during the financial year July 2020 to June 2021.

The plan also provides indicative long-term funding information for the financial years 2022/2023 through to 2027/2028.

Online submissions

You can read and submit on the Draft Tūpuna Maunga Operational Plan 2020/2021 alongside Auckland Council's Annual Budget 2020/2021 online at www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/tupunamaunga. Online submissions close 22 March 2020.

Email submissions

Alternatively, you may send written feedback directly to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority via email to MaungaAuthority@aklc.govt.nz by 22 March 2020.

Hearing of written submissions

The Authority will also convene a public hui on written submissions commencing 11am, 17 March 2020 at the Reception Lounge, Auckland Town Hall, Queen Street. If you wish to speak to your written submission at the hearing, please email

MaungaAuthority@aklc.govt.nz by 11 March 2020. Presentations at the hearing will be for a maximum of 10 minutes (including questions) and repetition of submissions will be avoided.

Event consultation

You can view hardcopies of the Draft Tūpuna Maunga Operational Plan 2020/21, speak with Authority representatives, and complete feedback forms at the following events:

- 29 February 2020 11am – 4pm, Māngere Mountain, Māngere Bridge, at the "Love Your Maunga" community event
- 15 March 2020 10.30am to 1.30pm at Pukewīwi/Puketāpapa/ Mt Roskill, Mt Roskill
- 21 March 2020 12pm to 3.30pm at Maungauika/North Head, Devonport

Copies of the draft plan and feedback forms will also be available at Te Ipu Kōrero o Maungawhau / Maungawhau Visitor Experience Centre on Maungawhau / Mt Eden and at local libraries and Auckland Council Service Centres from 26 February to 22 March 2020.

Find out more:

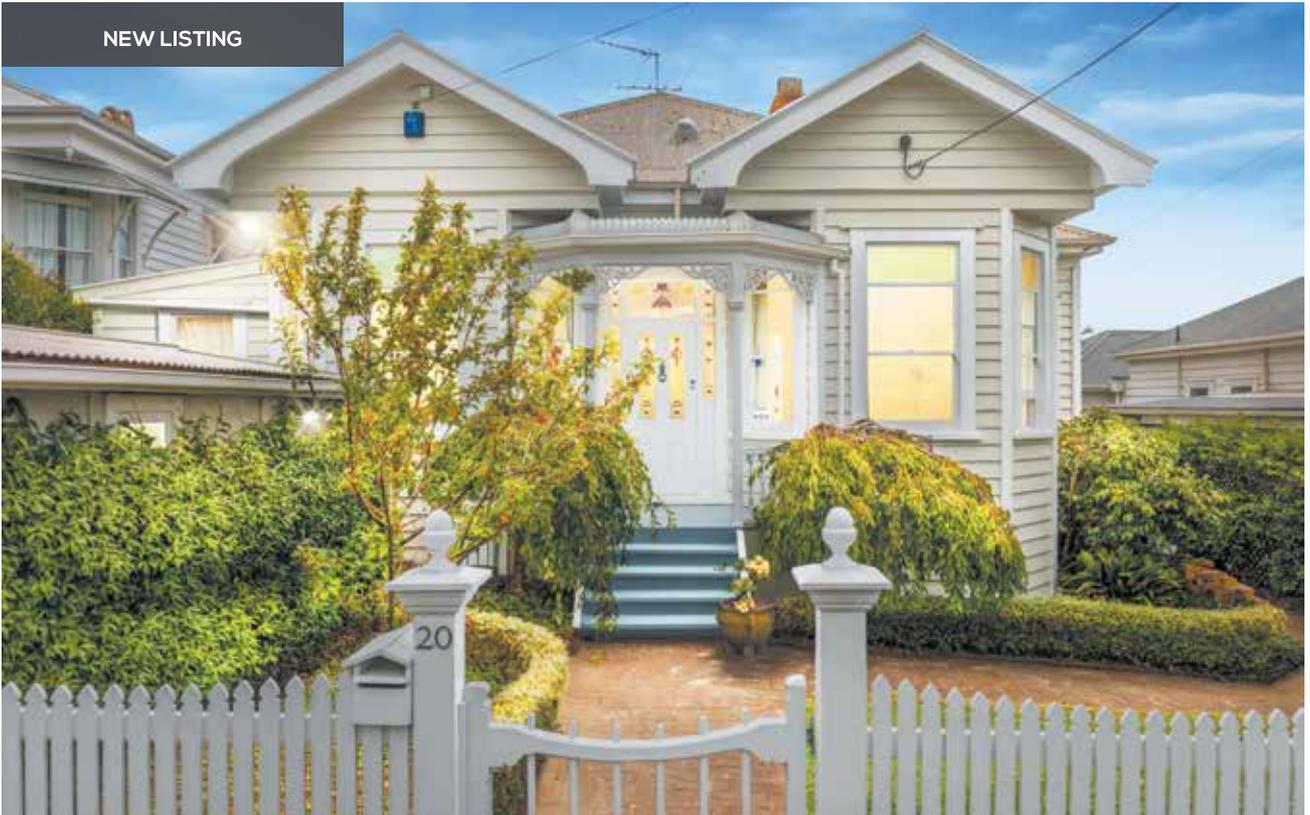
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TENDER

Closes on 11 Mar 2020 at 4:00pm
 (unless sold prior)

VIEWING

Sat/Sun 12:00-12:45pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/786454



Sue Harrison
 021 909 549
 s.harrison@barfoot.co.nz
 Devonport 09 445 2010



Toni Gregory
 021 044 3663
 t.gregory@barfoot.co.nz
 Devonport 09 445 2010

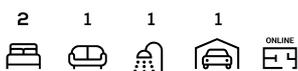


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AUCTION

10:00am 12 Mar 2020 at QBE
Stadium, Albany (unless sold prior)

VIEWING

Saturday 11:00-11:30am
www.barfoot.co.nz/787383



Cathy Fiebig
021 383 149
c.fiebig@barfoot.co.nz
Devonport 09 445 2010



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

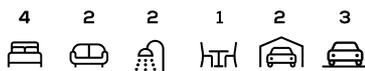
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AUCTION

10:00am 12 Mar 2020 at OBE
 Stadium, Albany (unless sold prior)

VIEWING

Sat/Sun 12:00-12:30pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/787049



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



Pam Riley
 021 949 401 A/H 09 489 2767
p.riley@barfoot.co.nz
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DEVONPORT 4/64 VICTORIA ROAD



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VIEWING
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By Negotiation
VIEWING
Sunday 11:00-11:45am
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 **Kim Byrne**
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DEVONPORT 1B/105 VICTORIA ROAD

TAKAPUNA 2/24 ONEPOTO ROAD



TENDER
Closes on 19 Feb 2020 at 4:00pm (unless sold prior)
VIEWING
Phone For Viewing Times
www.barfoot.co.nz/784240

AUCTION
By Negotiation (unless sold prior)
VIEWING
Phone For Viewing Times
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 **Tracey Lawrence**
021 1720 681
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 **Tracey Lawrence**
021 1720 681
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 **Trish Fitzgerald**
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DEVONPORT 98 VICTORIA ROAD



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AUCTION
3:00pm 7 Mar 2020 on site (unless sold prior)
VIEWING
Sat/Sun 2:00-2:45pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/786162

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DEVONPORT 42 MOZELEY AVENUE



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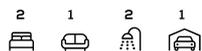
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By negotiation
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By appointment
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VIEWING
Sat/Sun 11:00-11:30am
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THE VIC VICTORIA THEATRE TRUST



NEW DIGITAL PROJECTOR

The latest digital projector will soon be installed at The Vic Lounge cinema allowing a fuller range of films to be screened at the highest digital quality. A DCI digital projector will bring in the latest films, including a much wider range of art-house movies. It means all movies will be delivered as digital files and can be played in The Vic's four cinemas at the same consistent high standard.

The new projector will mean the wonderful painting of Mary Pickford, the 1920s silent 'queen of the movies', will have to be moved. This was painted for The Vic for the 2014 Devonport Arts Festival by street artist Component and originally hung on the exterior of the building.

She will be rehung on the landing of the main staircase where she will be able to gaze down on the posters of modern movie stars.

COMING UP @ THE VIC

3 March 10.30am & 12.30pm Seaweeek Special Screening of three short films celebrating the oceans and the magnificent creatures that live there. *The Shark Feeders* and *Aotearoa - Land of Ice and Fire* were made by Robin Kewell, who returns to The Vic with this wonderful celebration of our seas.

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Community bid for council building unlikely to succeed

A collective bid that would return Devonport's information centre to Victoria Rd is unlikely to succeed, it seems.

Council-controlled organisation Panuku received 10 expressions of interest in October 2019 for a short-term lease on 3 Victoria Rd.

Four months later, general manager assets and delivery Marian Webb says it is finalising the process and will contact applicants soon.

The Depot Artspace's Lynn Lawton led a community consortium, including the information centre, bidding for a longer lease on the building, so the information centre and other groups could operate through the 2021 America's Cup.

Lawton says discussions with Panuku indicate it does not want to budge on a six-month lease, saying council will know by then what its plans are for the building.

But it could be months after that, before councilacts on those plans, Lawton says.

"It is a lost opportunity," he says, especial-

ly with ATEED [Auckland Tourism Events and Economic Development supporting the Devonport Business Improvement District \$500,000 America's Cup events programme.

"Surely a venue like this would be critical to support those events," he says.

"Potentially there would be the information centre, along with kiosks representing the cultural, historic and artistic places in Devonport."

Lawton is frustrated his plea to the newly elected Devonport-Takapuna Local Board to get the building returned to community use – which the board rather than Panuku would control – does not appear to have gained support.

Another sticking point is that Panuku wants the lessee to take responsibility for the quake-prone building, whereas the community groups wanted the council to take on liability.

The building was vacated, and the information centre moved out, when it received an earthquake notice on 9 July 2018.

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bayleys.co.nz/1470296

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Expressions of Interest (unless sold prior)

Closing 3pm, Wed 18 Mar 2020

83 Victoria Road, Devonport

View Sun 11.30am-12.30pm

or by appointment

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patricia.hinchey@bayleys.co.nz

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Native trees offer all forts of fun

Native trees on a Cheltenham street have provided hours of summer fun for local children who have crafted their own forts.

A colourfully decorated puriri tree is one of the first things you see as you walk along Sinclair St.

Gabby (11), Lili (10) and Trixie (8) first decided to build a fort when they saw the remains of an old tree house outside neighbour Barry Watkin's house.

"Barry made a treehouse for his children 20 or 30 years ago. We asked Barry's son about it one day and he said, 'Oh, it's great, I remember sitting in it when I was a kid.' It's been there for ages," says Gabby.

"That's when I turned to Lili and Trixie and said that if you want to do something you should just do it."

The girls' first fort attempt didn't last very long.

"When all of our stuff fell down we decided that we would try again with everything that we had, and Barry helped us make some swings."

Bright scarves, buckets and pullies made from rope, and dishwasher cutlery holders were some of the materials used.

Watkin found some old wood that he cut up for the girls to use as swings.

"The wood is some old Kauri that I found under the house. I cut the wood, but Gabby sands it all down herself," he says.

"I had built the original treehouse about 20 years ago, but ended up taking most of it down. I think it's great that the girls are rebuilding it. It means they're outside instead of in front of a screen."

Gabby says that she was aware it was important that they didn't use any nails that might harm the native tree.

When neighbour Eric Nancekivell (4) spotted the fort, he decided he would like to make one of his own. He used the



Construction crew... (clockwise from left) Gabby (on swing, foreground), Trixie, Lili, Eric and Lucia

pohutukawa tree in his backyard and, with the help of his parents, is currently working on the final touches.

Eric also decided against using nails.

Gabby, Lili and Trixie say they spent many hours in their fort over the school

holidays, mostly having picnics.

"That's why we have to have the pullies... to get the food and cutlery up," Gabby says.

The girls, along with Eric, continue to make additions to the forts, and have even built a third, outside Lili's house.

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Seedlings plot set up to help boost coastal ecosystem

A new gardening group has established a native seedling plot at the Ngataranga Organic Garden.

The Devonport Native Nursery Group was set up last month by Restoring Takarunga Hauraki to collect and plant native seedlings that will eventually be transplanted into local reserves and gardens.

Spearheaded by local Louise Cotterall, other members include Celia Walker, Maria Murphy, Lance Cablk and Martha Cablk.

The group is currently in the early stages of collecting and planting seedlings into a shade house at the organic garden.

The overall aim, the group says, is to protect the coastal-fringe ecosystem.

“We have collected seeds from along Shoal Bay, because we really want to plant along there. Especially things like the salt marsh ribbonwood,” says Cotterall.

“One of the key parts of this is to protect that shoreline, estuary and bird habitat.”

Seedlings have also been gathered from local maunga and Paddy’s Bush reserve.

Murphy has been working on building a relationship with the Navy marae and local tangata whenua who are supportive of the project.

“It’s about respect and biculturalism, including tangata whenua in our kaupapa with indigenous plants. We can actually go about negotiating some really great things for the community through a partnership with them,” says Murphy.

“I am Maori, and I specialise in the medicinal properties of native plants like harakeke. In Devonport, this is going to be just amazing. These plants can support the immune system and fight diseases. I’m surprised because there’s a lot of people who don’t know about this, but this is just stuff that I grew up with and that my mother taught me.”

The group has also consulted Derek Craig, the restoration nursery manager of the Kaipatiki Project, on which plants to grow.

Salt marsh ribbonwood, harakeke, koromiko, whau and puriri have been planted.

Cotterall says that it will be between one and three years before anything is ready to plant out, but they have high hopes for the nursery project.

“We’re in it for the long haul,” she says.

By Emelia Lake

Nursery team... (Left to right), Louise Cotterall, Maria Murphy and Martha Cablk



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friends of Achilles Reserve
Saturday Feb 29 4:30-6pm
Achilles Reserve

Devonport Peninsula Pest Free Strategy Meeting
Wednesday March 4 7-8:30pm
Fort Takapuna, The Barracks

RTH Network Meeting “Urban Native Tree Cover”
Wednesday March 11 7-8:30pm
Fort Takapuna, The Barracks

Pest Free Ngataranga Point Organising Meeting
TBC contact Lance Cablk for details

Weekly Weeding Group
Every Friday 9-10am
Achilles Reserve

Jutland Rd Restoration
Saturday March 14 4:30-6pm
Jutland Rd Reserve

Growing Native Plants In Devonport
Tuesday March 17 9-10am
Ngataranga Organic Gardens

Raranga Workshop - Harakeke Weaving Arts
Ngataranga Organic Gardens
Registration Required, Times TBC

Nature Photography: What To Look For
Sunday March 21 4-6pm
Jutland Rd Reserve

Ecology Bike Along The Bays
Sunday March 29 6-7:15pm
Kawerau Avenue

For further information please visit Restoring Takarunga Hauraki’s Facebook Page events. Or contact RTH Programme Coordinator Lance Cablk pestfreedevonport@gmail.com



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Junior Squash at the Devonport Squash Club

Squash has been rated as the 'Healthiest Sport in the World' by Forbes Magazine!

The game is very complementary to other sports and develops aerobic capacity, speed, balance and hand-eye coordination, not to mention being great fun! As an indoor sport, it's never cancelled and is a rain/hail-or-shine activity.

We have a fantastic facility at the Devonport Squash Club, and we have been working hard to develop our Junior Club facilities and programmes. We have just completed an upgrade of all three courts and now have the services of top-level coaching provided by Manu Yam and the team at MYSquashCoach. Devonport local Sam Sayes provides expert coaching for our juniors!

The club has the following programmes scheduled for 2020: all programmes are at the Devonport Squash Club on Wairoa Rd, and are fully supervised in our secure club environment. Rackets and balls are available for all programmes – just bring non-marking shoes and get into it!

Contact Junior Convener Hamish Wilson 021 241 3923.

- **After-school programme** – Mondays 4-5 pm – Great introductory program to start kids on their squash journey.
- **Holiday programmes** – run every school – holiday period – ideal for players of all levels, from beginners to experienced.
- **Individual and group private coaching** – for all levels from beginner though to elite levels. Contact club coach Manu Yam 021 886 583.
- **Saturday Afternoon Junior Social event** – Saturdays 4pm–6pm – for members and non-members, and a great chance for juniors of all abilities to mix on the squash courts and to take advantage of the great facilities in the club lounge (pool/table tennis etc). Fully supervised!

Get your kids active all year and fit with Squash – we have options for all levels and a wonderful, safe facility. If you would like to discuss or get more information, contact Dave Edwards 021 331 971.



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Late and cancelled ferries irk commuters

More than 40 Devonport ferry sailings were cancelled in January, Fullers' data reveals.

One in 10 January sailings were more than five minutes late or, sometimes, early, the ferry company's online dashboard shows.

Cross-harbour Devonport sailings totalled 2560 for the month.

Fullers gave advance notice of three cancellations of 6am Devonport services

last week due to cruise ships arriving.

The pre-arranged cancellations – aimed at reducing disruption – were recommended by a working group involving Fullers, Auckland Transport (AT), Ports of Auckland and the cruise-ship industry.

In addition, the arrival times of two cruise ships, scheduled to berth at Princes Wharf East, were brought forward by 30 minutes to minimise the impact on morning peak-hour services, AT's Mark Hannan says.

For the remainder of the cruise-ship season, arrivals at the Auckland Ferry Terminal will be brought forward where possible, Hannan says.

Fullers 360 chief executive Mike Horne says it wants a permanent restriction to ship movements in the ferry basin from 6am to ensure less disruption for commuters. Currently, the restriction is from 7.30am to 9am on weekdays.

One cruise-ship captain has been warned this year for leaving seven minutes early, AT says.

Devonport commuters have been increasingly frustrated with late and cancelled ferries, and are expressing regular complaints on social media.



**DEVONPORT
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

ENROLMENTS TERM 2 2020

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

Applications for out-of-zone places in all years are now being invited for those students who will become eligible for enrolment during the period 28 April to 3 July 2020.

The deadline for receipt of applications for out-of-zone places is 28 April 2020.

If a ballot for out-of-zone places is required, it will be held on 28 April 2020.

Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three school days of the ballot being held.

If you live in the home zone and have not yet signalled your intention to enrol your child later this year, please contact the school immediately to assist us to plan appropriately.

The Board of Trustees will also hold multiple ballots throughout 2020 to enable out-of-zone children to continue to enrol in 2020.

World Day of Prayer Service

**6 March, 10 am
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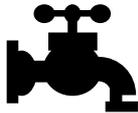
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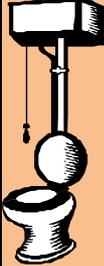
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Folkies converge on Windsor reserve



Bluegrass on dry grass... (from left to right) Colin Speir, Cameron Bennett, Pete Parnhan and John Olding (Bluegrass and Beyond)

A crowd of around three hundred enjoyed the summer sounds at the annual Folk in the Park concert held at Windsor Reserve on 16 February.

Photos: Keeley Watson



Hats off to the musicians... Helen Harman with dog Zorro (at left) and Pat and Mike Habgood



Laid-back vibe... the Folk in the Park crowd (above), while Diane Ponzio performs (below)





Now welcoming new members!

Devonport Rotary has got back into the year picking up on a number of projects we had underway in 2019 and are hopeful to see further progress on the Pump Park as well as the reassembly of the playground in Santo.

One of the highlights of last year was the success of the Devonport Fine Homes Tour. We thank everyone who purchased a ticket, opened their home or sponsored/supported the club. The event raised in excess of \$50,000, with \$10,000 being donated to Dementia Auckland as well as funds going back to the local schools through the sharing of proceeds from the sale of tickets.

We also received a wonderful letter from Dementia Auckland and it states...

"We can't say thank you enough."

"On behalf of Dementia Auckland, we want to express our sincere gratitude for your generous donation of \$10,000 from the Devonport Fine Homes event.

Someone affected by a diagnosis of dementia steps into a journey of uncertainty and change every day, and they do so with dignity and courage. Because of this valuable funding, we are able to continue providing much-needed services across Auckland and help those who reach out to us for support and guidance on dementia."

If you would like to learn more about the club, and what we are up to, you are invited to join us at one of our meetings on a Monday evening.

This month's column was sponsored by Bayleys Real Estate and Ryman Healthcare



Contact us at info@devonportrotary.co.nz or visit www.devonportrotary.co.nz if you would like more info.

The council-owned building at 3 Victoria Rd has been empty for almost 600 days. Lynn Dawson, a volunteer at the Devonport visitor centre, which used to be located in the building, has written an open letter to Mayor Phil Goff.

Kia ora Mayor Goff
When I communicated with you in August 2019, at your request, the historic building at 3 Victoria Road, Devonport, had been vacant for more than 400 days.

As of this week, this building has now been vacant for almost 600 days.

What interests the Devonport community is that about two weeks after that previous email to you, Panuku advertised in the Devonport Flagstaff asking for expressions of interest to use the building. I, as an interested community user and volunteer at the evicted information centre, contributed towards a fairly extensive business case to Panuku for the return of 3 Victoria Rd to community use. We have had the courtesy of hearing nothing.

When will you, Mayor Goff, come to Devonport to hear the concerns of the community for the return and use of this historic building instead of leaving it to sit empty and more dilapidated than it already is? This is a disgrace in what you claim to want Auckland to be... a vibrant and visitor-friendly city.

I note that towards the end of 2019, contractors cleared out the building, including two kitchen refrigerators and other office-type property that was used by and belonged to community organisations when the building was in use by a number of groups, including the info centre.

There continues to be many community groups, including several I am involved in,

wanting to use the building on a weekly and monthly basis. Never mind the info centre, which continues to be manned totally by volunteers at a most unsuitable site hidden away off the main street in an arcade.

In January 2018, when the info centre was at 3 Victoria Rd, we had 2318 guest walk-ins.

In January 2020, in the present arcade site and when the cruise ship season is at its peak, there have been 864 guest walk-ins for the month.

We are all becoming very frustrated and angry that 3 Victoria Road continues to sit vacant and unused now for almost 600 days.

When will you, your council and Panuku have the decency to respond to requests to use, and to meet the needs and wishes of the Devonport community?

A petition signed by more than 1000 Devonport residents that was presented to both the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board and the heritage panel of Auckland Council in June 2018 remains buried and unresponded to.

I ask that you schedule a visit to Devonport ASAP to discuss these issues with the community. Especially as it was you in your election campaign dialogue, who stated clearly to me when asked about the vacant 3 Victoria Rd site that you would be "very concerned" to know of a building remaining empty for such a length of time.

I look forward to your response and your visit to our Devonport community.

Yours sincerely, Lynn Dawson



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Ryman proposing changes to a public road

Ryman Healthcare has taken the unusual step of seeking consultation with neighbours near its William Sanders retirement village over placing parking restrictions on a public street and removing currently unused bus stops.

Ryman has employed PTM Consultants to get feedback from local residents over the changes on Ngataringa Rd, although it has no jurisdiction over the proposals.

In a letter to Ngataringa Road residents, PTM said Ryman has already been granted resource consent to construct a retirement village, comprising 195 apartments, 79 assisted-living suites, 40 rest-home rooms, 40 hospital rooms and 40 dementia rooms.

“Following construction and opening, residents have found it difficult to exit the accessway due to vehicles parking close by and blocking visibility,” the letter said.

“We are proposing to install sections of no-stopping parking restrictions outside on both the sides of the road (Ngataringa Rd) from Lake Rd to the accessway and remove two bus stops that are no longer in service.”

It appears once the consultation has finished, Ryman will apply to Auckland Transport (AT) to make the changes. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board would then become involved.

News of the letter caused some consternation when raised at the board’s February meeting, with some members concerned a large company was attempting to have a greater say than it should over public assets.

Council officer Eric Perry said Ryman, as a private company, was free to do whatever surveying of residents it wanted. If and when it sought changes from AT, the issue would

come into the political sphere.

Ryman’s consultation also appears at odds with its own residents group, which has contacted the local board seeking a reinstatement of the bus service that previously served Ngataringa Rd.

• Board members voted last week to seek a review of public-transport services in the Devonport-Takapuna area, and particularly on the Devonport peninsula.

THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Survivors reunion held at Motuihe

Motuihe Island in the Waitemata Harbour was known as “The Rock” to more than 15,000 new naval recruits who trained there between 1942 and 1963.

This month, more than 100 “Survivors of the Rock” reunited at Motuihe and once again, the matelots (sailors) climbed the notorious hill to what was the site of HMNZS Tamaki in those days.

Most hadn’t been back to the Rock since that basic naval training, but this time, they didn’t have to carry up two buckets of wet sand or fall in and run a circuit of the island.

The exchange of dits (stories) flowed among the veterans as they gathered for a ceremonial unveiling of a memorial plaque and were addressed by the Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral David Proctor, followed by a karakia in Maori.

The plaque says, “This memorial marks the site of HMNZS Tamaki where more than 15,000 recruits undertook their naval training during the establishment’s 22 years on Motuihe Island. This commemorative plaque is dedicated to the officers, instructors, ship’s company and trainees who served here. Their Spirit lives on. Pursue the path of excellence”

One of the oldest survivors at the reunion, former sailor Brian Breen (now 94 years old), did his basic training on the Rock when he was 16 years old.

He says his most enduring memories were the experiences from, “learning to do as I was told, paying attention, following directions and getting fit.”

“The first time I got the rattle, was on our morning run, up at 5.30am, left our camp, down the hill, through the grove, up to the farm, around the water tower and back. On the way back through the grove, we decided to have an acorn fight. We had a bit of boys’ fun, but the leading boy reported us.

“That was my first introduction to ‘jankers’ ... getting up early in the morning, doing an hour’s exercise with a rifle, held out in front



or above your head, frog hopping ... and then extra work at 4.30pm.

“Another time, we were in the gunnery getting instruction and the petty officer asked me a question, but I had dozed off and didn’t know the answer, so he introduced me to Jimmy.

“Jimmy was a six-inch 112-pound projectile, and I had to carry it along and down the hill, and back up. I had a few harsh words to say about him...later on when I was on a ship, he was the coxswain and he was one of the finest people you could ever wish to meet.”

The three-day reunion included a powhiri at the Te Taua Moana Marae at Ngataringa Bay, a tour of the Devonport Naval Base, a Church service at St Christopher’s Chapel and a wreath-laying at the Memorial Wall at the Base.

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.

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Board sticks with 'no address required' policy for submissions

A bid to require residents to give their address when making submissions on council consultations was thrown out by the Devonport-Takapuna Local board in a split vote last week.

The addresses would only be used by council and not made public, member Ruth Jackson said in a motion to the board.

Currently submissions on council consultations can be made without providing an address.

The addresses could be useful, for example, in quantifying if concern over an issue

was localised or across the wider board area, Jackson said.

Member Trish Deans said in all submissions she made to the Environment Court or to the Government, she needed to provide her address, adding it should be no different locally.

Member Jan O'Connor said the current system was shambolic, where submissions on local issues could be coming from "Stewart Island" for all council knew.

Board member George Wood said if

requiring an address was mandatory, homeless or transient people would be cut out of the process.

Wood, and other board members Toni van Tonder and Aidan Bennett, who all voted against the proposal, were worried residents' concerns about privacy would be a barrier to them submitting if addresses were compulsory.

Deans, O'Connor and Jackson voted for the motion, with chair Bennett using his casting vote to defeat it.

New Hearing Clinic in Devonport

Dr. Teresa Burns, Doctor of Audiology, will be offering a local clinic once a month at 2 Fleet Street, Devonport, using the downstairs room at Devonport Family Medicine, next to Labtests. Services include hearing evaluations, hearing-aid fittings, adjustments and repairs, tinnitus consultations and free hearing checks (age 18+).

Why fight the traffic on Lake Road when you can stay local?

Teresa is an Audiologist with 25 years' experience, a local resident and owner-operator. Get in touch if you would like more info.

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Nestled between Mt. Victoria and Narrow Neck Beach, the course is one of Devonport's iconic attractions. Originally the home of the Takapuna Jockey Club, the contours of the infamous 'Back Straight' are still discernible when playing the par 5 13th. The course was originally nine holes within the perimeter of a horse-racing track. Motorbike racing, horse racing, greyhound and professional foot racing shared Alison

Park until 1934. The first full season of the Waitemata Golf Club on Alison Park took place in 1906, with annual subs of one guinea for men, and ten shillings and sixpence for women. Players were to use caddies and pay them sixpence for the afternoon and one penny for each ball found.

Waitemata Golf Club is committed to growing the game among young people and has seen a large growth in junior membership, offering support for both new and experienced golfers. Junior membership is open to all those under 19 years old, with competition days on Sundays. It includes free term-time coaching every Friday after school.

The recently renovated club rooms offer the ideal '19th' of your round. Our relaxing lounge bar and comfortable dining area are complemented by spacious outdoor decking providing panoramic views of the course. The Waitemata Cafe and Bar menu is extensive and very reasonably priced.

The ProShop stocks the latest and greatest products from Ping, Titleist, Mizuno and Wilson, along with apparel and a range of accessories.

There is a new \$30,000 launch monitor, which enables the team to fully customise a club or a set for you and your golf game.

This is a very popular course and bookings are essential.

Please note that we are a soft-spike-only course, and that dress standards require a collared shirt, and prohibit denim.



15 Derby St, Devonport | Ph (09) 445 8716 | admin@waitematagolf.co.nz

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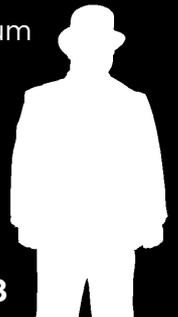
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FRI 28 FEB

TOBY & THE REST - LIVE SHOW - 7.30PM

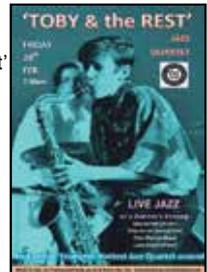
Jazz on a Summer's Evening with 'Toby and the Rest' jazz quartet. The award-winning ensemble consists of four students from Avondale College.

TUE 3 MAR

SEAWEEK SPECIAL - 10.30AM & 12:30PM

FREE ENTRY

The Shark Feeders and *Aotearoa: Land of Ice and Fire* plus other short films to celebrate the oceans, with Q&A by filmmaker Robin Kewell. Free entry. Reservations recommended.



48 Victoria Road | (09) 446 0100 | info@thevic.co.nz

Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



Grammar

FEB 28, 2020

NYC Performing Arts Trip



The dream of singing, acting and dancing on Broadway was the reality for sixteen TGS students, three chaperones, two tour guides, and local arts teacher Robert Dil this past January.

Passport to Broadway, organised through Robert Dil Performing Arts in association with Travel Gang Australia, allowed these passionate musical-theatre students exclusive industry access to top Broadway professionals in New York. Students learned routines from *Hadestown* (Tony Award 2019 winner for Best Musical), a workshop about the business of Broadway with a New York casting agent of 20 years, a vocal workshop with a Broadway vocal coach, a meet-and-greet with one of the stars of current hit *Moulin Rouge*, and workshoping a new musical with the show's writer. These thespian travellers also saw four to six musicals each on Broadway, which included *Hadestown*, *Moulin Rouge* and *Come From Away*.

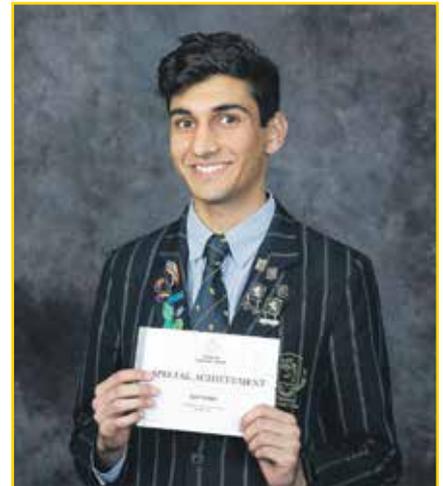
The next stop took the group to Atlanta to participate in the 2020 Junior Theater Festival, the 15th anniversary of the largest festival in the world that celebrates young people and musical theatre. This event attracts over six and a half thousand participants annually and is sponsored by some of the biggest names in the theatre industry: Music

Theatre International, Playbill and Disney.

Top groups are lucky to receive awards in categories such as acting, music, dance and ensemble work, and Team Robert Dil Performing Arts won an award for Excellence in Dance. This award not only highlights the brilliant work of the student performers but also student choreographers Molly Lewis and Alice Cawley. The group performed a 15-minute excerpt from *Fame JR* and this was a wonderful award to receive.

After all the hard work in New York and Atlanta, the group stopped in California on the way home to explore Hollywood, play at Disneyland for two days (including the newly opened Star Wars-themed land, *Galaxy's Edge*), and engage in a high-energy show choir workshop run by Disney Performing Arts in their new facilities. This workshop allowed the students to be professionally recorded singing a song from a Disney movie and then be filmed dancing choreography to their own voices.

The performing arts bring people together and this group was able to celebrate arts education in the theatre capital of the world, and other special places, which brought the group together to create memories that will never be forgotten.



Innovation Scholarship for Kyle Hensel

In December 2019, the Takapuna Grammar School Board of Trustees awarded Kyle Hensel, a Year 13 student, a scholarship for innovation for his work in designing the TGS app. Kyle demonstrated a high level of skill in programming and in responding to student and staff input to develop an app that has been piloted over the past two years in the school.



2020 prefects got into the Valentine's spirit, delivering notes, gifts and serenades to students around the school throughout the day.

Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



Grammar

FEB 28, 2020

Takapuna Grammar School Alumni T20 Cricket Game

Waitangi Day 2020 marked a very special occasion: the return of the TGS Alumni T20 Cricket game. This year, the Takapuna Grammar 1st XI took on a team of TGS alumni, a group of keen cricketers past pupils of the school. With the toss conducted by past pupil Bill Crump, the Old Boys opted to bat first. After two exciting innings, and only one pulled hamstring, the Old Boys came out on top, beating the TGS 1st XI by a comfortable 46 runs.

A solid turnout throughout the day meant that the event was a huge success and proved to be a great time for all players and spectators.



Co-Curricular Expo

Ted-Ed, Broadway Squad and Amnesty International are just a few clubs that are offered and run at Takapuna Grammar School.

On Tuesday 18 February, the annual Co-Curricular Expo was run. The expo provides an excellent opportunity for students to explore and discover all clubs and activities that are available at TGS. Most clubs have a teacher in charge as well as a student leader, which makes it a leadership opportunity for students in the long run.

Daisy Eaglesome, one of the organisers said: "it was awesome to see so many students eager to get involved in the wide range of activities the school has to offer".

Looking back – 20 years ago from the Flagstaff files

- Work on the second stage of the Ngataringa Skateboard Park stalls, with a funding shortfall of \$127,000. The cost of the project is put at \$220,000 – twice the estimate first given to the Devonport Community Board.
- Police continue inquiries into the rape of a woman in the St Leo’s school grounds. The attack happened as the woman walked home after the Devonport Food and Wine Festival.
- Around 30,000 people attended the festival on Saturday February 12.
- More than 1000 people a day are visiting the replica of the sailing ship Endeavour, berthed at Victoria Wharf.
- Occupational Safety and Health closes the stairwells at Devonport wharf restaurant Torpedo Bay, which the safety agency claims fail to meet structural standards.
- A court date is set for Friends of North Head’s challenge to DoC having offices on the mountain.
- Devonport lawyer and well-known sportsman Phil Carrigan dies aged 52 of a heart attack while jogging at Stanley Bay Park.
- A “bedroom community with well-groomed dogs” is how a Florida-based travel writer describes Devonport. “Everyone looked healthy, upstanding, benevolent. Paint was fresh and dogs well groomed,” Thomas Swick of the *Sun Sentinel* said.
- A historic house at 12 Rata Rd, Cheltenham

- is ripped apart for renovations after plans are approved without a resource consent hearing. Architect Dave Pearson criticises the work as making a mockery of the residential 3 heritage-protection zone.
- Land at Fort Takapuna is prepared for being opened to the public.
- Graeme Whitehead starts as the new princi-

- pal of Devonport Primary
- A Stanley Bay garden developed by Graeme Thomas and Tex Riley is part of the Hero Festival Heroic Garden Tour.
- Chole King and Tom Elton compete at the New Zealand national swim champs.
- A two-bedroom unit at Narrow Neck is on the market for \$229,000.

Community at the heart of Anzac Day

A dog will march through Devonport along with veterans on Anzac Day, as the RSA seeks to put informality and community into the event.

People said they enjoyed the informality of last year’s unofficial Anzac Day service, says the RSA’s Chris Mullane, who officiated.

“The feedback was that people wanted it to have more community involvement and to have proper respect for the remembrance but to make it appeal more to all ages,” he says.

This year, Devonport RSA mascot Winston, a young bulldog, will march with owner Sergeant Max Laloli.

The Belmont Primary School choir, led by RSA committee member and singer Rebecca Nelson, will perform and include New Zealand-themed and contemporary songs rather than “jingoistic hymns”, Mullane says.

The list of official wreath-layers will be cut back. However, there will be time allowed for groups and families to come forward to lay wreaths and other tributes.

Last year’s civic ceremony was cancelled due to security fears in the wake of the Christchurch terror attack. Instead a ‘renegade service’ was arranged by locals to honour Devonport residents and others who served in wars.



NEW LISTING



Devonport 67 Albert Road

What a character!

This charming character villa is located right in the heart of Devonport. Step inside and discover two good-sized bedrooms, a spacious open plan kitchen/living/dining area. Excellent indoor/outdoor flow makes entertaining a breeze, while the high ceilings and the beautiful bay windows makes coming home a dream come true. The enclosed backyard is perfect for families, with plenty of space for the kids to play and the adults to entertain. This part of the city is inherently popular, and quality homes are seldom relinquished. But our vendors have decided the time for change is now, and they present their home to the market determined to achieve a result on, if not before, auction day.

bayleys.co.nz/1451130

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Auction (unless sold prior)
 1.30pm, Thu 12 Mar 2020
 28 Northcroft St, Takapuna
View Sat/Sun 11.15am-12pm
Petko Petkov 027 302 0686
Nick Cape 022 458 0876
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Maungauika arts event to go ahead

A two-day performing arts event on Maungauika has been rescheduled and will now be held on 21 and 22 March.

The \$65,000 event was due to be held in the Northern Battery tunnels on 14 and 15 December, but was postponed after concerns

were raised over tunnel safety.

Paris Kirby, who is running the event through her company Social Ritual, decided to use other tunnels on the maunga and submitted a new application.

Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operations

Manager Nick Turoa said tunnel maintenance work would not affect the event.

“The majority of the event will be held in the open space, and the applicant will avoid any areas that have been cordoned off for the maintenance work,” he said.



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[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/60590](https://premium.co.nz/60590)

VIEW | SAT/SUN 11 - 11.45 AM OR BY APPOINTMENT

TENDER CLOSES | THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2020 AT 4 PM UNLESS SOLD PRIOR BY PRIVATE TREATY



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