

# The Devonport Flagstaff

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March 27, 2020

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**Twins take the lead as TGS prefects... p3**

**Coronavirus pandemic local wrap-up... p4-10**

**Interview: Clock collector Dennis Dowie... p20**

## Devonport getting one of first Covid-19 testing stations

Devonport will be home to one of north Auckland's first Covid-19 community testing stations.

Waitemata DHB approached Anne St Medical about setting up a testing station, primarily

because of Devonport's large elderly population, practice manager Dale Te Iwimate says.

The medical centre is applying for an urgent consent for a portable building to house the station.

The DHB will first open testing facilities in Wellsford and Warkworth, but Devonport's would be next to open, she says.

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## Sweet melting moment amid the fun of the fair



**Candy flossies... Nina Helm (left) and Olive Watkin (both 5) at Devonport Primary School's Fair on the Hill, held on March 14. Photo: Keeley Watson. More photos, pages 32-33.**



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**Best Headline:** 2017, 2018

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

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## New uses explored for heritage building

Alternative uses for the historic Takapuna Boating Club building at Bayswater are being investigated by Auckland Council.

The building, once one of the most prominent and best-used public facilities on the North Shore, has gradually fallen into disuse and disrepair.

When constructed, it was only allowed to be built on its waterfront site subject to an act of parliament, restricting its use. The act says the property must be used for community purposes, such as boating or public swimming.

Takapuna Boating Club, which moved its headquarters to Takapuna Beach in the 1970s, has wanted to sell or lease the building, and been in negotiations with the Auckland Council legal department hoping to get the legislation amended.

The building and land cannot be used for private gain, such as through a lease arrangement with a commercial party, an Auckland Council spokesperson said.

"The Takapuna Boating Club has recently requested council look to amend the act, to allow a lease arrangement to go ahead. Currently, such an arrangement would be a direct breach of the act."

Council is legally required to identify alternative options before promoting changes to an act, and also consult with local boards, the public and iwi.

"Full assessments of alternative options, deemed reasonably practical, are currently being worked through. Once complete, findings will be presented to the governance committee for their consideration," the spokesman said.

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## Virus-testing station planned for village

The station is to be run by nurses and technicians, who would take throat swabs only, with the aim of taking pressure off general practices, as Covid-19 becomes more widespread.

The stations will also allow people to get tested near their homes, reducing travel and helping contain the disease.

The Anne St practice hopes to have a station set up within six weeks.

It could be sited in Anne St, or in front of the new Devonport Health Centre, which is being built in the former BNZ building on Victoria Rd, or elsewhere in the village.

Meanwhile, the three Omnihealth practices in Devonport – Anne St Medical, Devonport Medical and Dr Erica Lauder's practice – plan to offer the option of phone and video consultations.

These could be for regular health matters, when people are reluctant or unable to visit the practice.

General advice is to stay safe by staying away from gatherings and using social distancing – trying to stay more than a metre from others

and keeping any closer contact to fewer than 15 minutes, if possible.

The practices started Covid-19 testing last week, but advise people to call ahead or phone Healthline's coronavirus team on 0800 358 5453 for advice, if they are worried they may have symptoms.

Devonport Family Medicine's Monique Nyemecz said it was early days and the practice would communicate directly with patients, rather than through the Flagstaff.

## 3 Victoria Rd: empty for 627 days

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

It has now been unoccupied for 627 days. Auckland Council development arm Panuku is working through the future options for the building.

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# Nice one, bro! Twins lead the way at TGS



**Six of the best... (From left) Julian Lampen, Sebastian Lampen, Mac Dalzell, Will Dalzell, Daniel Perkins and Dominic Perkins are all prefects at Takapuna Grammar School**

Takapuna Grammar School students and staff can be forgiven for seeing double when engaging with this year's prefects.

Three sets of 17-year-old twins are among the school's 44 prefects for 2020.

Another three sets of twins are to be found among the school's other year-13 students.

The Lampen twins, Julian and Sebastian, from Devonport, say they were surprised to both become prefects.

Julian says, "Being a twin is pretty crazy, especially when your twin is a prefect as well. But Sebastian always reminds me when we have team meetings."

Next year, Julian plans to study within the field of science and maths, while Sebastian is set on studying urban planning at the University of Auckland.

Daniel and Dominic Perkins, of Narrow Neck, don't know what they would do without each other.

"My twin is my best friend and I always have someone to trust and rely on," says Daniel.

Dominic adds, "Our personalities complement each other very well, which creates a really great leadership dynamic for the whole team."

Both Daniel and Dominic want to study

biology at university.

Will Dalzell, who is also a deputy head boy, and his twin Mac, live in Northcote.

Mac says, "Being a twin is pretty cool and it's nice to have someone to always help and support you. Because we are both prefects, we can work together."

Mac plans to study physiotherapy while Will aims to do a law degree.

## STOP PRESS and disclaimer

This edition of the Devonport Flagstaff was going to print as the government announced a stage-four Covid-19 lockdown from Wednesday 25 March.

At that time, all our news and advertisements were correct. We apologise for any information that has subsequently become incorrect or outdated.

We had a free guide planned for restaurants and other businesses that were offering home deliveries. We have put this on hold as these

have been deemed non-essential services and will be shutting down for four weeks.

News is an essential service so the Flagstaff will be attempting to continue. This edition has been printed and is available online. However, the next two editions may be online only, with a limited print run over the next month.

If the situation changes regarding restaurants and other companies, we encourage readers to use local services as a priority. Our website is [www.devonportflagstaff.co.nz](http://www.devonportflagstaff.co.nz).



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**The economic crisis sparked by the Covid-19 virus has swept the world. The Flagstaff spoke to two local businesses to see how they are coping.**



**Books still a safe harbour in a crisis... Terrie Gray of Paradox Books**

Devonport residents wanting to stock up in preparation for the coronavirus crisis has led to a spike in book sales.

Last weekend, local bookstore Paradox Books had a growing number of new customers.

Following the closure of Devonport Library, the independent bookstore more than doubled its usual takings.

"We had an amazing weekend of sales and we weren't expecting that at all," said store owner Terrie Gray.

Paradox Books are also offering free deliveries from Hauraki Corner down to Devonport. They have already made a few deliveries and are expecting more to come.

In February, Gray celebrated two years of "heartening" business from locals and tourists. Most of the profit was used to purchase more books for the store.

"Many people in Devonport have always had a love for reading," she said.

However, local book clubs are now not convening because of the Covid-19 pan-

demic. "Dozens of book clubs are deciding not to meet but that doesn't mean people will stop reading," said Gray.

At the end of this month, Paradox Books plans to have a stocktake sale.

There hasn't been any panic-buying of novels but definitely a substantial increase in customers looking for a good read, said Gray.

Paradox Books will be open from 9.30am until 5.00pm from Monday to Saturday and on Sunday from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

## Time for community common sense and economic compassion

If there was ever a time to be locally focused that time is now.

Pressure is mounting on everyone: fears of catching the Covid-19 virus, uncertainty over... pretty much everything.

Few will be unaffected by the economic fallout. Many will have fears over job security, others will have lost a significant amount of their life savings in funds linked to global stock markets and some may have loved ones in countries struggling with the virus. Coupled with self-isolation, social distancing and winter, depression is a concern.

Personally, this is what I'm doing:

- Identifying a close group of friends I will continue to see. Mostly for walks to get outside and make the most of Devonport's natural environment.
- Being more vigilant about how my

neighbours are doing.

- Trying to spend as much money as I can locally.
- Rationing my intake of news on the virus. I've got a couple of 500-plus page books I've never quite got round to reading.
- I won't be rushing to New World to stockpile and am surprised others have. We will not run out of food.

On a professional level, the Flagstaff will continue to publish news on local people as best we can (made more difficult by the mass cancellation of events and sports).

We will continue our watchdog role on local authorities. We have asked Auckland Council, for example, if it plans to advance money to the Devonport Business Association to help fund a 'shop local' campaign; and will it be offering commercial-rate relief that

landlords can pass on to tenants?

We have the Navy at our doorstep to help if a civil emergency is declared. We are also fortunate to live on a peninsula.

In the early 1980s, a local larrikin, Terry Sheehan, created the Republic of Devonport for a day, blocking entry to "foreigners" who didn't have a Devonport passport. It's unlikely movement in and out of the peninsula would ever be curtailed as a response to the pandemic. But Terry, who died more than a decade ago, would have been glad to know that recollections of his "Republic" can still raise a wry chuckle.

We had a reader call in with a delightful 'good news' story the other day.

Keep the news tips coming: news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz or phone 445-0060.

**Rob Drent, Editor**

# Restaurant feeling squeeze from pandemic

Seven months after they purchased the thriving Manuka cafe, a Devonport couple fear they could lose everything due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Peter and Susan Reeves returned from travelling the world with their two children and decided to live in Bayswater. After much consideration, they purchased the central Devonport cafe seven months ago.

"We have put everything on the line," Peter Reeves says. "A business like this costs a lot."

They used their personal assets, including their home and savings, as security, and have worked 80-plus hours a week since to build up the business.

Customers have included locals, visitors from other parts of Auckland and travellers from further afield.

Now, especially since stricter travel restrictions were imposed, patronage has plummeted.

Last week, passengers from six cruise ships were booked in for meals, and all of the vessels cancelled their Auckland visits.

The Reeves' biggest worry is about the future, which could include reducing hours, laying off staff and even closing the cafe and restaurant's doors.

The 15 staff, who live locally, are on low



**Worried... Manuka cafe owners Peter and Susan Reeves have faced plummeting patronage and have fears for the future of their business**

wages and rely on their income to get warrants on their cars and food on the table.

Peter is extremely worried about their welfare, and about the flow-on effect to the entire community.

He is willing to subsidise the wage bill with his own money, but the business, which leases the entire corner block, is

costly to run.

The Reeves say they already train staff to high hygiene standards, but are reinforcing that training and are also keeping the restaurant spotlessly clean.

If necessary, they will remove some tables to support social distancing. Manuka is offering home deliveries.

## Open-air yoga

Open-air yoga classes have been set up in response to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Yoga teacher Sharon Byron-McKay will hold the classes at Balmain Reserve, Cheltenham every Tuesday from 9.30-10.30am. Bring your own mat. Payment by koha. Check Facebook for wet-weather cancellations.

## Covid-19 arrives on peninsula

A parent of a Takapuna Grammar School student has been diagnosed with Covid-19.

"The parent did not visit the school whilst infectious and the student was not symptomatic while they were at school and remains well with the family self-isolating," TGS principal Mary Nixon, said in a letter to parents last Thursday.

The Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS) advised there was "a minimal risk to students, staff or others at the school".

"Takapuna Grammar has not been advised by the ARPHS to close at this time. The latest evidence shows that, unlike influenza, there is a low risk that a person is able to transmit the virus before they have symptoms," Nixon says.

## Act Now for Finance

In these volatile times with equity and bond markets falling, it is important for people to act quickly on any financing requirements they may have. If you are sorting finance or refinancing, it is best to act now and not delay things.

This is because finance may well become more difficult to source in times of a downturn, particularly from some non-bank providers. But also banks will likely find difficulty in sourcing wholesale funds from offshore (which funds about 25% of their books).

Banks have fully passed on the official cash rate (OCR) cut of 0.75% on their floating rates (now averaging 4.50%). But only ANZ has lowered its fixed rate, (the one-year) from 3.39% to 3.05%. Other banks have not yet followed (as of last Friday) and may not, as bond markets are selling off (higher in yield) as governments look to issue loads of bonds to help fund the downturn. This rise in wholesale rates will inevitably be passed on to fixed rates at some time soon.

The property market seems to be holding up well at this point with interest and finance available. But if this crazy chaos continues for several months activity and prices are most likely to fall.

Banks will come under pressure to help people through this crisis so speak to us if you need help with interest-only or a repayment holiday.

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## Movies roll on, without blockbusters

Devonport's The Vic cinema is taking a huge financial hit from Covid-19, with eight blockbuster movies cancelled by distributors over the next month. But it plans to remain open.

"We are not getting the blockbusters, but we are looking at giving the movies we do have more breathing space," general manager Philipp Jaser says.

Nonetheless, the blockbusters subsidise the art-house films and pay the bills, he admits.

Jaser estimates revenue has already fallen by 30 to 50 per cent.

To keep patrons safe, the staff are disinfecting door handles and surfaces and offering hand sanitiser to moviegoers.

In addition, the cinema has reduced its bookable seats by 50 per cent, so people can sit one metre apart.

## Community offers help to self-isolators

The Devonport community is offering support to local residents who need to self-isolate.

Resident Jacki Fortune has set up a social-media group, 'Devonport Self-Isolation Support', which last week had more than 300 members.

Fortune said she has been amazed by how many people in the community have come forward to offer help to deliver food and supplies.

"Keeping people in our community healthy, benefits us all," she said.

Fortune especially wants elderly residents who are more susceptible to Covid-19 to know they can reach out to people in the community.

"Every day you look at the newspaper and

listen to the radio – it is very unsettling for people. Now running errands risks possible infection."

President of the Devonport U3A, Michael Greig, said the club's members, ranging in age from 65 to 95, often spend most of their time at home, and have limited transport options.

"The situation is still changing, and we are taking advice from the government, but within the community there are things happening. Neighbours are already helping neighbours," said Greig.

Devonport 7 Day Pharmacy, the Fresh Market Fruit and Veg shop, The Living Room, Manuka Cafe, Sigdi and Glengarry are among Devonport businesses offering deliveries prior to the level four lockdown.

## Doctors restrict surgery visits

Devonport GPs moved to limit visits to local surgeries after directions from national medical authorities last weekend.

Overseas medical waiting rooms have been identified as areas where Covid-19 has spread.

The Royal New Zealand College of Practitioners issued a series of guidelines to minimise risk.

Phoning or emailing ahead for an appointment is the key measure widely adopted.

## Cruise-ship disruption ends, eventually

Devonport ferry cancellations continued last week, despite the government ban on cruise ships in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The 6am ferry from Devonport to Auckland and the 6.15am ferry back from the city were cancelled on Thursday 19 March, in order to limit the impact through the morning of a cruise ship's arrival, the Fullers 360 website said.

"Although cruise ships have been banned from entering New Zealand waters, this cruise ship was already in New Zealand at the time of the Government announcement and is still scheduled to arrive," a travel

alert said.

However, Devonport ferries are more likely to run on time in the weeks ahead.

The Government has banned cruise ships from entering New Zealand waters until 30 June.

Currently, Fullers has no plans to cut the number of sailings in response to the pandemic.

Daily cleaning rosters have been increased, and other safety and hygiene measures are being introduced, including the option for staff to wear protective gear.

Fullers encourages passengers to check travel alerts on its website and app.

## Parents start pulling kids from schools – but then closed anyway

Parents were removing children from local schools as fears of a lockdown across the nation increased on Monday.

Many students stayed at home, rather than attending local primary schools.

Takapuna Grammar said large numbers of students were attending school, "but some families are choosing to keep their children at home and are letting us know," a spokesman said.

Schools closed from Tuesday for at least four weeks, as the government announced a nationwide lockdown.

## DEVONPORT HEALTH CENTRE WILL BE OPENING ON MONDAY THE 6TH OF JULY.

The move will see Anne Street Medical, Devonport Medical Centre and Dr. Erica Lauder merge into a world-class health centre providing a truly modern approach to health care.

In this time of uncertainty, we'd like to extend our support to the local community. Our message is simple — stay safe, stay home, shop locally and avoid any unnecessary social/community events. The key to keeping well is regular handwashing and social distancing (maintaining a metre distance with others). If you are within one metre of anyone, try to keep contact to less

than 15 minutes and wash your hands as soon as possible.

All of our clinics remain open for business. However, we will be introducing more telephone and video consultations to ensure adequate social distancing. This will help our patients receive the care they need without unnecessary exposure to others who are unwell.

**DH<sup>+</sup>**  
**Devonport**  
Health Centre

**Worried about exposure to COVID-19? Remember to stay at home and use the phone.  
Call Healthline on 0800 358 5453. Do not come to the clinic unannounced.**

# Panic-buying at New World

Panic-buying at New World – Devonport's only supermarket – began in earnest last week, but had slowed by Monday.

While shelves hadn't been cleaned out, as has occurred overseas, when the Flagstaff visited last Thursday, certain items had taken a hammering: pasta, baby wipes and canned food stocks were all down. Toilet-paper shelves seemed reasonably full.

All the tills were operating and queues were getting deep around 3pm.

Staff – including owner-operator John Ashton – were busily re-stocking shelves. Extra staff have been taken on and the supermarket has cut back its hours to 8am to 9pm to allow restocking.

Ashton said he was surprised at panic-buying in Devonport. "There is tonnes of food in New Zealand." But he added: "People are very frightened – people are worried about being isolated and also catching the virus."

Staff were "working around the clock seven days a week" to supply goods to Devonport residents, Ashton said.

"I would like to thank everyone for their understanding and patience in this situation."

Foodstuffs, the New World, umbrella company, has measures in place for people accessing supermarkets if the government raises alert levels.



**Queues at New World last week**

## Cauliflower off the menu

Cauliflowers, which were selling for \$12.99 at New World, are now off the shelves after attacks on the store on social media.

New World owner John Ashton said he bought the cauliflowers for \$10, "Aren't we allowed to make a small margin?"

He instructed his grocery manager not to stock any more cauliflowers after the "very disappointing" reaction on social media.

## “Nature in a Vase” In response to Coronavirus our fundraising auction is now a tender.

Pop in or walk by to view 9 fabulous original paintings, and a limited selection of prints at Bayleys Devonport, 83 Victoria Road between 9am – 5pm daily until 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 when tenders will close at 4pm.

Recognised local artist Andi Merkens and her "off the wall" collaborator Paddy Stafford-Bush have made affordable impact art. They have created a series of bold and different bespoke artworks for you to tender for.

Proceeds from this event will go to Bayleys chosen charity **“Make A Wish Foundation”**

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## Covid-19 cancellations

- Devonport Rotary has had to cancel one of its major fundraisers, an 8 April pre-release showing of the new James Bond movie *No Time to Die*.

The distributor is postponing all major releases until later in the year in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, organiser Colin Cannon says.

"We were pleased to get a pre-release before general release, and it would have generated a lot of interest and been a good fundraiser, but these things happen and you have to respond accordingly," he says.

- A Devonport Rotary trip to Vanuatu to help install the old Windsor Reserve playground has also been put on hold, as has a Rotary trip to see TV3's *The Project*, with MediaWorks cancelling live-audience shows.

- Atarau, a two-day art, light and sound event scheduled last weekend at Maungauika was cancelled. Auckland-based event organisers Social Ritual made the decision as a precautionary measure to reduce risk of the spread of Covid-19. The event was expected to attract around 1500 people over the two days.

- Belmont Park Racquets Club cancelled a black-tie dinner at McHugh's last Saturday. To support the restaurant, it chose not to seek a refund, and hopes to hold the event at a later date.

- A Tūpuna Maunga Authority consultation meeting scheduled for last Saturday on Maungauika, about the authority's new operational plan for Auckland mountains, was cancelled due to concerns surrounding the outbreak.

- Scheduled drop-in sessions for people to discuss and submit on Auckland Transport's plans for Lake Rd improvements have been cancelled and residents are encouraged to submit online. More information and an online survey form are available at [at.govt.nz/projects-roadworks](http://at.govt.nz/projects-roadworks)

- Takapuna's popular Sunday Market has been cancelled.

- Devonport Museum closed until further notice, late last week, as did the Navy Musuem at Topedo Bay.

- All community sports including rugby, football, cricket, squash, tennis and swimming events have been put on hold.

- The Rose Centre has postponed its season of the play *Peninsula*. On Monday, the Rose Centre announced it would close until further notice.

## Gas-main injury sparks emergency services call-out

A gas main and a digger caught fire on Calliope Rd injuring one person and threatening a historic villa on Monday afternoon.

Around 4pm, fire officers were still hosing down the villa and gas pipe to protect the house, near Huia St. Trying to put out the fire would risk an explosion, Devonport Fire Station officer John Ellington said.

The injured person was in "a moderate condition" and taken by ambulance to North Shore Hospital.

Police also attended the scene. **Gas fire... Calliope Rd**





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[www.navymuseum.co.nz](#)

**Message to our community**

The Navy Museum and Torpedo Bay Cafe are closed until further notice to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

Please take care of yourself and others.

  
TORPEDO BAY NAVY MUSEUM

## To live in Devonport is to be part of a community with a history of coming together in times of need.

The COVID-19 pandemic is fast evolving around our country and proactive precautions are being taken and updated almost daily to protect our residents and communities.

Our businesses, who are locking arms to be part of the solution to keep our people safe, healthy and happy, are in need of our support. The village has a very different feel these days and many of our businesses are having to quickly react. Some are reducing hours of operation while others are making the voluntary decision to temporarily close their doors.

In the wake of those decisions, our businesses and retailers adapting. In an effort to maintain some normalcy for their customers, some are creating online shops, many are offering delivery options and all are upscaling hygiene and handling procedures. But now more than ever, these businesses need our support! Now, more than ever, it is imperative that we stay local, shop local and support local!

Here are ways you can do that...

### SHOP LOCAL

Shop as you normally would for your daily necessities, takeaways, coffees and treats. If you're self isolating, many businesses offer delivery and there is a group of local volunteers who have come together to offer delivery from businesses who may not normally do so.



PHOTO: KEVIN HILL

### Find creative ways to feel and stay connected.

- Place your favourite café order – get one for yourself, have one delivered to a friend or two... THEN pick up the phone or video chat and enjoy together!
- Order takeaways and host a watch-party of your favourite online shows.
- Order new stationary and write letters to old friends and family.

### Within your own four walls stay entertained.

- Shop online for new puzzles, board or card games.
- Reach out to one of Devonport's book shops to deliver new stories or take out audio/e-books from Auckland Libraries online.
- Declutter your home or finish that DIY project. Need materials? Have them delivered!

### SUPPORT LOCAL

Devonport is a community of small businesses. Owners and managers are often one and the same as well as the smiling face you see when you walk in. These are people just like you and me, they are being affected just like you and me, and they need our support just as much as we need theirs.

So, as much as you can, continue to make that fitness membership payment, keep paying for the weekly treatments you receive, plan now to celebrate milestones with gift cards, flowers or chocolates and don't cancel that lay-by purchase or deposit you made on services if you don't have to.

Reach out to your retail favourites and don't be afraid to try new ones. If you can, pop in with (or deliver) a treat or a card to your favourite retailers to show them you're thinking of them.

Stay strong, stay healthy, stay kind and look out for one another! **Shaulyn van Baaren**





## Customer Message – Covid-19

This message is to all of our wonderful customers and to the wider community of Devonport which Manuka Café and Restaurant is an established member within.

In these challenging times we are currently experiencing, and we would like to take this opportunity to reassure you all that we are taking every precaution available to ensure the health and safety of all our staff and customers.

Our already stringent hygiene practices have been reinforced and retrained to all our staff, and you will notice these further on your recent visits to Manuka. Our strategy is based around simple yet effective ways to make our environment as clean and safe as possible.

We are very proud of our Café and Restaurant and the role it plays within the community, and we want it to continue to operate and thrive for many more years to come. You, our customers play a huge role in our continued success and we encourage you to follow our lead with increased hygiene standards when entering and socialising within our environment.

These are very uncertain times, but we urge you to continue to support local businesses and work together as the fabulous community that we are.

We certainly look forward to continuing to serve you our high-quality coffee, drinks and food as per usual.

Sincerely,

Peter, Susan and the entire Manuka Team.



**'Here to assist within our  
community any way we can'**  
**PETER & SUSAN REEVES**

**Manuka Cafe & Restaurant**  
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# THE VIC VICTORIA THEATRE TRUST



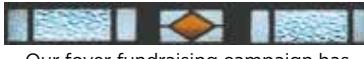
## THE VIC IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS - SO GO LOCAL!

The Vic has launched special measures to deal with coronavirus to reassure our audiences that it is safe to keep coming to the movies.

We have started a seat-separation policy by ensuring groups and couples leave empty seats either side of them as 'safe zones'.

We will sell no more than 50% of cinema seats and staff will be carrying out extra cleaning and sanitising of surfaces between screenings.

Luckily our two main cinemas are large and airy and we have a good ventilation system throughout the building that extracts air and does not recirculate it. In our smaller cinemas we will limit ticket sales so there is plenty of room around our customers.



Our foyer fundraising campaign has received a major boost from a large donation of \$50,000 from the Awhero Nui Trust.

This generous gift means we have now raised \$65,000 towards restoring the foyer and are well on the way to our \$200,000 target.



There are some great films coming to the Vic. *The Personal History of David Copperfield* has a stellar cast and is directed by Armanando Iannucci.

This Dickens' classic has received rave reviews overseas.

And one for the whole family is the latest Disney latest kids movie *Onward*, described as a "crowd-pleasing and surprisingly moving adventure".

So come along to your local cinema and continue to enjoy the best films from around the world at the Vic in Devonport.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Ian Cunliffe & Diana Murray



# Harcourts

IAN CUNLIFFE 027 227 9322  
DIANA MURRAY 021 911 522

LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

# Keeping connected

A number of Devonport streets are creating contact lists to keep track of neighbours' health and well-being.

The Flagstaff is compiling a list of key contacts in different neighbourhoods, which will be placed on our website so people can stay connected.

For example, if you have concerns about someone living on Victoria Rd, you will be able to get in touch with the key contact for that street to request an update or relay a message.

Send your name, phone number, email address and the street(s) you are coordinating to [news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz](mailto:news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz).

# GLEN GARRY

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**Glengarry have a very efficient system for delivering direct to your door.**

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**We'll then deliver your order to you speedily and safely.**

## CHANGES TO DELIVERY PROCEDURES

With everyone's safety in mind, we have instigated new procedures for our deliveries. When delivering your order, we'll knock first, step back two metres from the door and wait for you to answer. At that point we'll ask for your name to confirm the order. Social distancing is the strategy behind this procedure.

## WHAT WE'RE DOING INSTORE

- We have provided Zono Hand Sanitiser and Surface Spray to all of our sites, and will be ensuring that these products are used effectively.
- We are making sure that everyone at Glengarry is following good hygiene practices and maintaining clean and tidy stores.

### Let's support each other and get through it.

Cam Lawrence  
Store Manager, Glengarry Devonport  
09 445 2989

# GLEN GARRY



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FREE DELIVERY TO SHUT-IN LOCALS

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[paradoxbooksdevonport@gmail.com](mailto:paradoxbooksdevonport@gmail.com)

# TAKAPUNA MARKETS

We have been directed to close the Takapuna Sunday Market temporarily due to the Coronavirus situation.

**Updated information will be available on Facebook and through our dedicated market phone number 09 376 2367.**



# Harcourts



## Devonport 14 Summer Street

4 2 2 2

### Family Friendly Villa

14 Summer Street is a spacious and well-appointed home, with a feature stained glass window in the entrance way and wonderful high ceilings, this villa oozes charm and character. The wonderful family friendly back yard, large enough to accommodate a swimming pool and still have room for back yard cricket is something your kids will love you for. This home has an open plan kitchen with breakfast bar, dining area and also that very desirable second living room which can be closed off with French doors when the need arises. The family living space opens out through generous doors to an elevated wraparound deck just perfect for outdoor entertaining and catching the best of the sun. Call today for a private viewing

### Tender

Closes 7th April at 4.00pm (unless sold prior)

**View** Saturday & Sunday 1.30pm - 2.15pm

[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22868](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22868)

**Diana Murray**

M **021 911522**

[diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz)

**Ian Cunliffe**

M **027 227 9322**

[ian.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:ian.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz)

Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd Licensed Agent REAA 2008





# Harcourts

AUCTION SUNDAY



## Devonport 30 Old Lake Road

4 2 2 1

### Auction Now This Sunday

Now and again a home really surprises us, and this is one. Way bigger than you expect this 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 living room plus study home has been renovated and professionally designed with style to a very high standard. Fabulous main bedroom with huge separate dressing room and ensuite. Stunning kitchen, wonderful open plan family living, central heating, great indoor outdoor living and privacy, all on a level fully-fenced 516m<sup>2</sup> freehold site, perfect for family and pets and fun in the sun. Only a short walk to the beach and all Narrow Neck has to offer - Vauxhall Primary, swimming, golf, tennis, squash, cafe and parks. This is a 'must see' home, so come and have a look, you'll fall in love.

### Auction

On site, Sunday 29th March at 12.00pm (USP)

**View** Saturday 1pm - 1.45pm & Sunday 11am - 12pm  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22887](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22887)

#### Rowan Renouf

M 021 736 683

[rowan.renouf@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:rowan.renouf@harcourts.co.nz)

#### Phil Clark

M 021 940041

[phil.clark@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:phil.clark@harcourts.co.nz)

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# Harcourts



## Hauraki 3/25 Waitemata Road

4 2 1 1 1

### Stylish Living In Hauraki Zone

Your search ends here! An exceptional renovation has transformed this two storied solid brick unit, the end one of three, into a super stylish contemporary home. Extremely well orientated for the sun and with un-interrupted views of Auckland City and the bay from your front deck, you have an everchanging vista day and night. From top to bottom, almost the entire interior is new! You will love the stylish kitchen that offers views and sunshine. New light fittings, tiles, paint work, window treatments and carpet throughout there is very little that has not been improved or replaced. A very desirable location within easy reach of schools, shops, a local café and playground. This home is available now! So, stop looking and get on with living!!

### Auction

On site, 5th April at 12.00pm (unless sold prior)

**View** Saturday & Sunday 11:00am - 11:30am

[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22899](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22899)

**Diana Murray**

M **021 911522**

[diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz)

**Ian Cunliffe**

M **027 227 9322**

[ian.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:ian.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz)

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# Harcourts



Devonport 9a Hanlon Crescent

4 2 2 2

**Great Position - Awesome Buying**  
If you are looking for lots of bang for your buck, then this property needs to be put at the top of your viewing list! This home provides for excellent outdoor flow to a north facing garden area, patio and outdoor living. There is room to add value to this property, however it can easily be lived in now as our owners have laid new flooring, one of the bathrooms was renovated in recent years.

**Auction**

On site, 15th April at 6.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22854](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22854)

**Jackie Mark**

M 021 458 797

**Jane Hastings**

M 021 735 263

**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**

Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Devonport 104 Calliope Road

3 1 1

**Chocolate Box Cottage...**

That is so "sweet" on the inside, it will melt your heart! Over the years our talented vendors have renovated this character home with style and panache. They have been mindful to retain all the original features, which have been wonderfully refurbished, yet have added modern style in such a way that the property blends both old and new beautifully.

**Auction**

On site, 5th April at 11.00am (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22885](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22885)

**Jackie Mark**

M 021 458 797

**Jane Hastings**

M 021 735 263

**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**

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Belmont 1/86 Eversleigh Road

2 1 1 1

**One Level, Lovely Sunny Garden**  
Rarely available are large 100m<sup>2</sup> two bedroom units with internal access garage and a glorious indoor outdoor flow to a wonderful flat, sunny north facing, private garden. This special unit has a double access bathroom so it can be used as an en suite or as the general bathroom for guests. Suitable for downsizers wanting one level or a first time buyer wanting a lovely home.

**Auction**

On site, 4th April at 11.00am (USP)  
**View** Sat/Sun 12 - 12.30pm  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22875](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22875)

**Gary Potter**

M 021 953 021

**Glenice Taylor**

M 021 943 021

**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**

Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Belmont 6 Westwell Road

4 2 1 1 1

**The Best Of Both Worlds**

Not often is the careful mix of old and new perfected with so much practical family living and design in mind. In this architect's own home, a thoughtful and generously light filled addition has been carefully designed to produce your very own private backyard, ideal for entertaining or escaping your busy day.

**Auction**

On site, 5th April at 12.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22893](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22893)

**Jemma Glancy**

M 021 246 5300

**Victoria Mules**

M 021 679 349

**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**

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Belmont 204 Lake Road

2 1 1 1 2

**Auction**

In rooms, 2nd April at 6.30pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22925](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22925)

**Jane Hastings**

M 021 735 263

**Jackie Mark**

M 021 458 797

**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**

Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Devonport 2/7 Hanlon Crescent

3 1 1 1 1

**A Crystal Clear Buying Decision**

Immaculately presented, fully renovated and fastidiously maintained in the seaside Devonport Village, with a choice of Parks and Narrow Neck Beach just down the road, this great 3-bedroom entry level first home for young families, downsizers or professional couples, will absolutely "Wow" you and make buying in this wonderful neighbourhood an easy decision.

**Auction**

On site, 4th April at 1.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22895](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22895)

**Peter Restall**

M 021 808 808

peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz

**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**

Licensed Agent REAA 2008





# Harcourts

AUCTION  
SUNDAY


**Bayswater 10 Birkley Road**

3 1 1 2 2

**Bayswater Bungalow Beauty**

- Incredibly tidy Californian Bungalow
- Delightful city views across Ngatirangi Bay
- Beautifully maintained original features
- Sunny north facing courtyard
- Bayswater Park and Takapuna/Devonport cycleway almost on your doorstep
- Call Vic or Jemma to view today!

**Auction**

On site, Sun 29th Mar 20 at 5pm (USP)  
View as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22879](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22879)

**VIC & JEMMA**  
M 021 679 349 & 021 246 5300  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008


**Devonport 4/118 Vauxhall Road**

2 1 1 1

**Dream Clifftop Apartment**

In premium position at the waterfront end of the complex, this apartment is perfectly placed to lap up the uninterrupted, breath-taking views across the Hauraki Gulf to Rangitoto. It's a magical and ever-changing outlook and will be a grandstand position for next year's Americas Cup! One of a very tightly held group of apartments on prime Devonport clifftop real estate.

**Auction**

On site, 4th April at 12.00pm (USP)  
View Sat/Sun 11 - 11.30am  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22872](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22872)

**Glenice Taylor**  
M 021 943 021  
**Gary Potter**  
M 021 953 021  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008


**Devonport 6/66 Victoria Road**

2 1 1 1

**Village Life With A View To Easy Living!**

This is a rare opportunity at this price point to grab a piece of the Devonport village lifestyle and create a carefree life with a lock up and leave home. You are so close to the action that you will not be needing the car day to day, walk to the supermarket, cafes, cinema, beaches and the ferry to the C.B.D.

**For Sale \$1,180,000**

View as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22848](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22848)

**Maria Stevens**  
M 021 979 084 P 09 446 2111  
[maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz)  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008


**Devonport 9 Macky Avenue**

3 1 1 2 1

**Idyllic Family Sanctuary**
**AUCTION ON SITE THIS SATURDAY**

- Freehold 613m<sup>2</sup> site(more or less)
- Five houses to Cheltenham Beach
- Outstanding opportunity!
- North facing aspect

**Auction**

On site, 28th March at 12.00pm (USP)  
View Saturday 11.15am - 12.00pm  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22877](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22877)

**Ian Cunliffe**  
M 027 227 9322  
**Diana Murray**  
M 021 911522  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008


**Devonport 75a Stanley Point Road**

4 3 3 2 3

**Stunning Living - Captivating Luxury**  
Exciting, contemporary and exceptional in every way! This original 1920's Bungalow was architecturally transformed in 2008 and over the last few weeks has undergone a significant renovation taking full advantage of the spacious modern open plan living areas, water views and striking sunsets.

**For Sale**

Price By Negotiation  
View as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22736](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22736)

**Peter Restall**  
M 021 808 808  
[peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz)  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008


**Devonport 32 Wairoa Road**

2 1 1 1

**Narrow Neck Beach And Views!**  
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.

**Maria Stevens**  
M 021 979 084 P 09 446 2111  
[maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz)  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008





# Harcourts

**Belmont 1 Te One Place**

4 2 1 1

**Selling Fast!**

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.

**For Sale \$1,485,000**

**View by appointment**  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35635](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35635)

**Vic & Jemma**  
M 021 679 349 | 021 246 5300  
**Michael Swarbrick**  
M 021 888 133  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

**Belmont 2 Te One Place**

4 2 1 2

**Selling Fast!**

This stunning, north facing four-bedroom freehold property features the very best of architectural design; it's New York city walk-up meets coastal living in the heart of the North Shore. With two generous levels, double glazed windows and modern insulation, this hassle-free home is ready to live in.

**For Sale \$1,525,000**

**View by appointment**  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35633](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35633)

**Vic & Jemma**  
M 021 679 349 | 021 246 5300  
**Michael Swarbrick**  
M 021 888 133  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

**Belmont 3 Te One Place**

2 1 1 1

**Only 2 Left!**

This brand new, two bedroom freehold property in Oneoneroa is the perfect haven for relaxing and entertaining. Featuring the very best of architectural design, with two spacious levels accented by a contemporary steel and timber weatherboard, double glazed windows and modern insulation.

**For Sale \$995,000**

**View by appointment**  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35599](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35599)

**Vic & Jemma**  
M 021 679 349 | 021 246 5300  
**Michael Swarbrick**  
M 021 888 133  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

**Belmont 4 Te One Place**

3 2 1 1

**Only 3 Left!**

This modern three bedroom freehold property features the very best of architectural design, making for a warm and inviting family home in the heart of the North Shore. With two spacious levels accented by durable timber cladding, double glazed windows and modern insulation this is a low maintenance home with good street appeal.

**For Sale \$1,299,000**

**View by appointment**  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35629](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/TK35629)

**Vic & Jemma**  
M 021 679 349 | 021 246 5300  
**Michael Swarbrick**  
M 021 888 133  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

**Devonport 42 Church Street**

4 2 3 2 1

**Viva La Villa!**

- Charming character villa
- Elevated corner site
- Large spacious bedrooms
- Sunny aspect with private garden
- Downstairs work from home or income potential
- Opportunity to add value

**For Sale**

Price By Negotiation  
**View** Sat/Sun 2:30-3:00pm  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22793](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22793)



**Ian Cunliffe**  
M 027 227 9322  
**Diana Murray**  
M 021 911522  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

**Bayswater 14 Lansdowne Street**

5 3 2 3 1

**Exceptional Waterfront Oasis**

- Magnificent 420m<sup>2</sup> floor area home
- North facing palm fringed site with landscaped gardens
- 1,012m<sup>2</sup> freehold land
- Salt water heated concrete pool
- Expansive Shoal Bay sea views
- Offers an exceptional holiday lifestyle all year-round

**For Sale**

By Negotiation  
**View by appointment**  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22832](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22832)

**Peter Restall**  
M 021 808 808 P 09 446 2114  
[peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz)  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
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# oneoneroa



## Stop searching. Start living.

Welcome to Oneoneroa, where life meets style.

This brand new community is nestled on the northern shore of the Waitemata Harbour. These stylish terraced homes are built to the highest standards and spoilt with stunning surrounds - all within 10 minutes of the CBD.

We have 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms available right now, so get in touch today. The only thing missing in this beautiful seaside community is you.

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**Victoria Mules | Jemma Glancy**  
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Licensed Agents REAA 2008

## Power goes to editor's head

In response to the Flagstaff's "move away from our links to Britain" (14 February), I'm curious as to exactly how far that move will go. Presumably the future will be entirely in Maori.

I hope the business people who spend money advertising with you realise they won't actually get any business due to the fact the readers won't understand what they are selling. Am I correct in thinking the Flagstaff requires advertising money to stay afloat?

Your perceived power has obviously gone to your head, as you, Mr Drent, also want to change the names of King Edward and Queens Pdes. What about the very English name Devonport?

## Footpath not only for pedestrians

P. Raine (Flagstaff letters, 13 March) is correct that it is the responsibility of cyclists to avoid pedestrians, and cyclists should not expect to be heard over heavy traffic noise.

However, he/she is incorrect to say that the footpath on Lake Rd between Ngataringa Rd and The Maze and skatepark is only for pedestrians. That section of Lake Rd is actually a two-way shared pathway, as the sign suggests, as part of the Green Route cycleway way from Takapuna to Devonport.

**J Ellington**

But don't stop there. As you are so keen to sever any connection to Britain, what about your own name?

Best you stop signing off as Rob Drent and change it to something much less British.

This trend of removing all things British and attempting rewrite history to appease the ignorant, self-ego-boosting, politically correct brigade, who for some peculiar reason want to apologise or feel guilty for being born white, is nothing short of point-scoring.

I wonder if you will have the backbone to publish my letter verbatim, or do you only accept letters that align to your views?

**Helen Sharman**

**Rob Drent replies:** Far from wanting to change every single name in Devonport, I was seeking a discussion around the edges, on names of little meaning (Queens Pde), or very minor historical significance (King Edward Pde). As far as my own genealogical links go, Drent has no trail back to England.

On my father's side, we come from a university town in the Netherlands, arriving in Australia, then New Zealand, with the gold rushes more than a century ago. My mother, however, was English.

We print many letters with views I have difficulty comprehending, let alone agree with. I subscribe to the maxim often attributed to Voltaire: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

## Time to rename our local board?

With the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board finalising its short- and medium-term plans and budgets for the future, one big-picture question it could and should address is whether its name is appropriate for the geographic area it covers.

Extending south from Sunnynook and Castor Bay to Devonport and Stanley Bay, with borders of State Highway 1 to the west and the Hauraki Gulf to the east, is it appropriate that its present name relates only to the southern end of the peninsula, while ignoring northern areas such as Milford, Wairau Valley, Forrest Hill, Sunnynook and Castor Bay?

In fact, Devonport is twice indicated, as the name Takapuna derives from a

freshwater spring that flowed from the base of North Head (Maungauika) into a swamp behind Cheltenham Beach.

Given that in this modern day, the name Takapuna relates more closely to our famous beach and its fringing moana, should we be looking for a water feature that distinguishes the northern parts of our local board area? That answer is easy: the Wairau Stream.

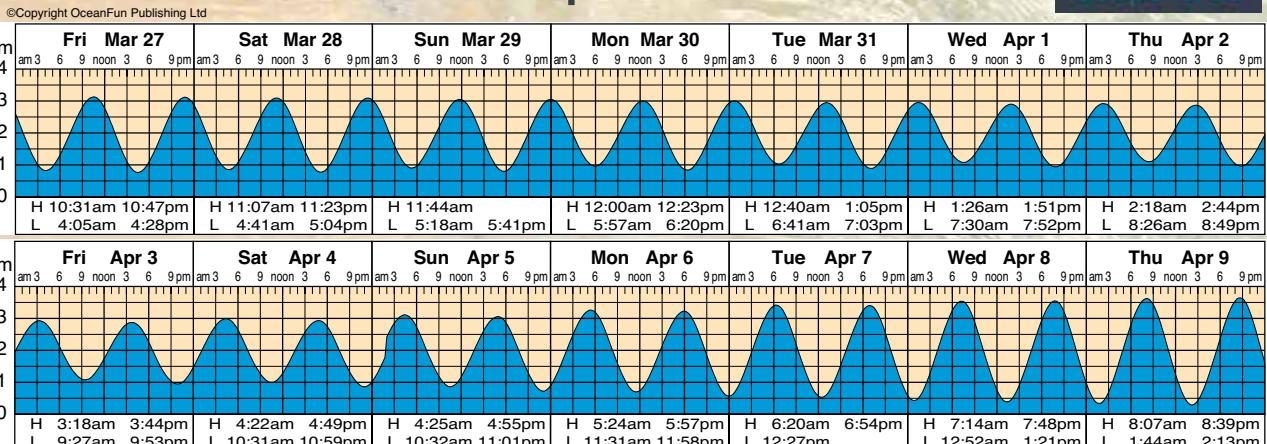
This suggests that Takapuna Wairau is a more accurate and fair description of the geographic area covered by our local board, and is a change that our proud and unified community should support.

Takapuna Wairau Local Board, anyone?

**Terry Dunleavy, Chairperson  
Takapuna Residents Association**

## Harcourts Devonport Tides

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## Harcourts of Devonport Property Management

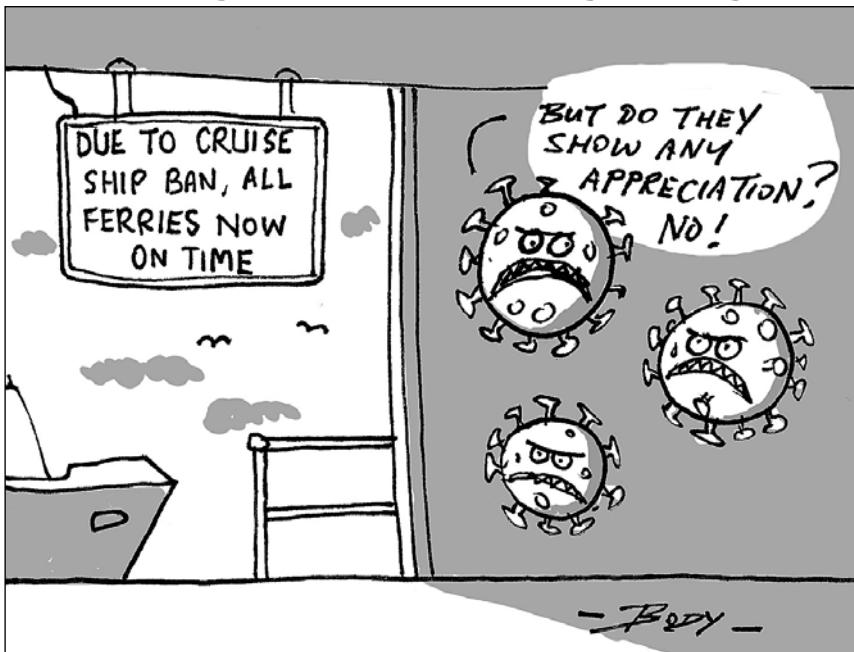
Put the management of your rental property in safe hands

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P 446 2108 M 021 960 313 E [nicole.plewinski@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:nicole.plewinski@harcourts.co.nz)



## Bodyline – with Guy Body



### Letters

### An open letter to ANZ from Grey Power

First of all, as a customer of the ANZ Bank for 50-odd years, I would like to congratulate you (ANZ CEO Antonia Watson) on your appointment, and note that you have stepped up from being head of retail and business banking, which will, I am sure, give you an appreciation of the points we are making as elderly customers.

Our community, particularly the seniors, have been very concerned by the closure of the Devonport branch, and the major inconvenience this has caused, particularly for the significant number who have difficulty with digital banking.

I understand the standard story of most people using online banking, but Devonport has a large number of senior residents and is a busy tourist destination, and the branch always seemed quite busy.

The closure means that our seniors have to travel to Takapuna, six kilometres away, in what can be a several-hour exercise by bus.

Our key issue is the pressure now on the Takapuna ANZ. The three times recently I have personally been there for foreign-exchange transactions, there was a long queue at the service desks.

The main point of writing to you is that at one of our regular local-community meetings, the issue arose of the ANZ Takapuna having no seats for the public in their front public area, where the long queues, and the way people are funnelled into the five service points on the left of the office, create a particular difficulty for older people.

Associated with this problem is that there is no low-counter area for people in wheelchairs or on walkers, which creates a stress in dealing with the tellers behind the higher counters.

Another situation I found of some deli-

cacy is that the majority of the staff were Asian, and for me, being hard of hearing, I had considerable difficulty understanding the lady I was dealing with on one visit because of her accent and articulation of English.

Actually, it became quite comical, and we wound up chuckling over it, but it would be a difficulty for a number of people with a hearing disability.

We would appreciate you arranging for the Takapuna ANZ public area to have some seating, and providing a low-access counter or facility for those customers who would find that helpful.

An innovative approach could be to provide a dedicated service area for seniors as part of the 'front desk' operation, giving them priority of service in busy times.

Many of your senior customers have been with the bank for a long time, and it would be greatly appreciated if you could take all the steps possible at the ANZ Takapuna to make their banking activities as convenient and comfortable as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Bill Rayner, President  
Grey Power, North Shore**

### New playground vandalises nature

The beautiful view through the pohutukas on Windsor Reserve to the sea beyond is now visually polluted with what resembles a school playground. When we should be treading lightly on the earth, concrete trucks are still arriving. I hope the decision-makers are happy with their vandalism of nature.

**J Leighton**



## OUT & ABOUT

Maria Teape Community Coordinator

445 9533 | maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

### SUMMER FUN PRESCHOOL PLAY MORNINGS - CANCELLED

With the escalating COVID-19 situation, Devonport & Bayswater Summer Fun Preschool Play and Kids Athletics have been cancelled. It is our intention to run a celebratory Kids Athletics session and Summer Fun Preschool Play sessions when it is safe to do so again – hopefully later in the year. We will keep you informed.

For up to date, accurate information about COVID-19 in New Zealand, please visit this website: [www.covid19.govt.nz](http://www.covid19.govt.nz) and national multi-agency support (Health, Immigration and Police) can be reached via email: [nhcselfisolation@health.govt.nz](mailto:nhcselfisolation@health.govt.nz)

### DEVONPORT SELF ISOLATION SUPPORT

If you are in self-isolation and needing local support, you can join Facebook group 'Devonport Self Isolation Support'.

Devonport Peninsula Trust are also happy to be a central point of contact for people needing support; phone 445 9533 or email: [devonportcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:devonportcommunity@gmail.com)

Devonport Holy Trinity Church are also offering support for people in self-isolation:

phone 445 0378  
or email [vicar@holyytrinity.gen.nz](mailto:vicar@holyytrinity.gen.nz)

### REMEMBER - BE KIND, WASH AND DRY YOUR HANDS STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK

**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 Devonport-Takapuna Local Board for funding the Devonport Peninsula Trust.

## shorejobs

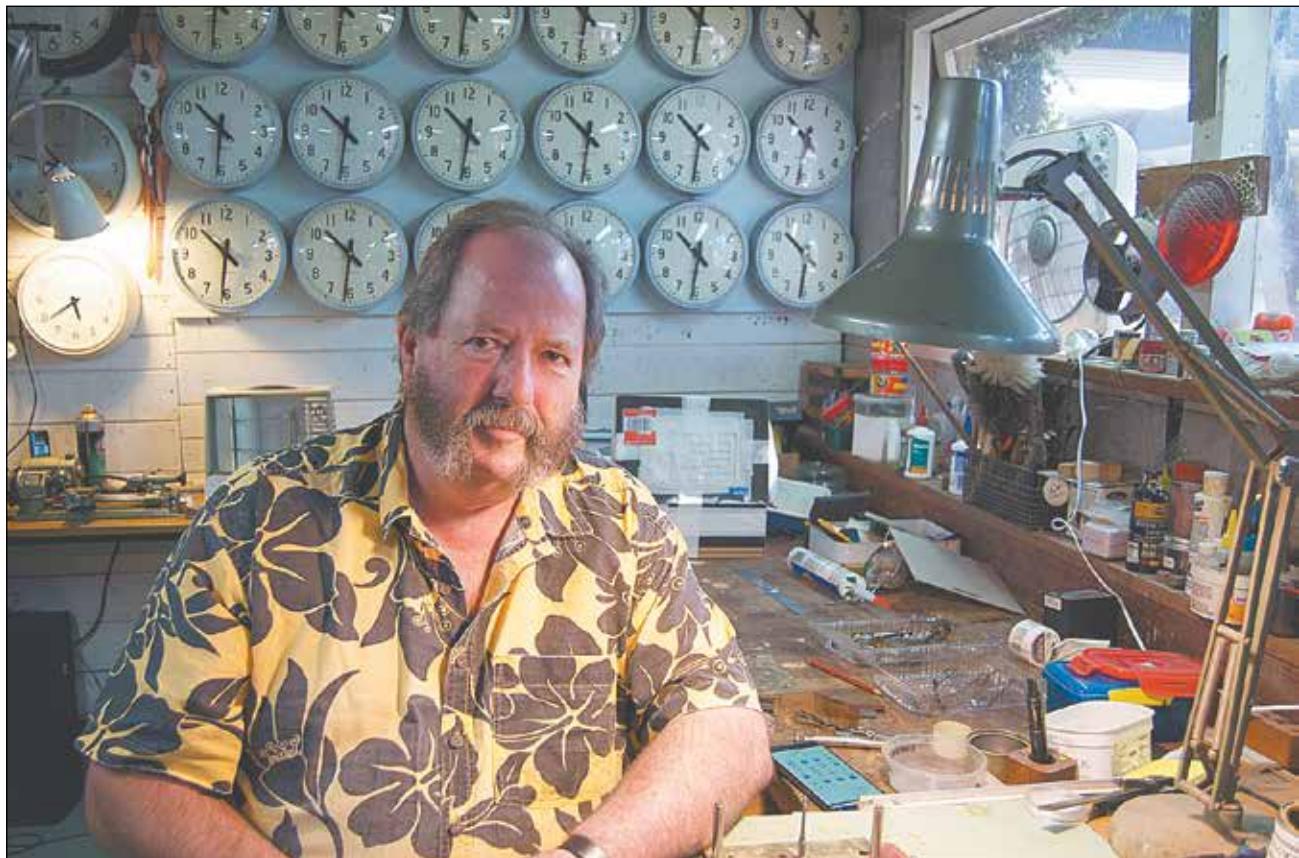
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# Collector clocks up the time of his life

**With 90 clocks in his collection, Dennis Dowie never has to look far to know the time. The retired architect tells Helen Vause about his passion for the inner workings of timepieces from days gone by.**



**Face time... Dennis Dowie's workbench is overlooked by a wall of 'slave' clocks, like those that used to tick in unison in government offices around the country**

When you knock on the door at Dennis Dowie's place at Stanley Point, he'll probably know if you're bang on time, a few minutes late or just ahead of the appointed hour.

But it's not your timekeeping he's that exacting about. Rather, it's keeping a close eye on the intricate movements of his large collection of clocks and other timepieces that Dowie is really interested in.

The Flagstaff was initially a little distracted by the setting and sounds, before settling into conversation with Dowie in his garden workshop. It's the 'engine room' that keeps his collection ticking, putting back into working order those instruments that might otherwise have marked their last minute.

A whole bank of identical white-faced 'slave clocks' overlook in perfect time as

he tinkers – in case he should be thinking of knocking off. Mostly from government offices around the country, they all tick in unison from an electric signal sent from their 'master'.

But much of his 90-strong collection sits with artworks in his beautifully preserved, architecturally designed, mid-century house. It's almost gallery-like. The eye doesn't have to travel far before coming to rest on another piece, large or small, no longer in the original casing of its era; instead with workings fully visible in perspex display cases made by Dowie, "so you can see the interesting bits."

Dowie is a retired architect, and crafting pleasing environments has been his working life. He reflects that it all started back in his mid-teens when his father gave him a pocket watch.

"That was pretty uncool in the 60s, when all the other guys were getting wrist watches. So I decided to take it apart, see how it worked."

But other than the purchase of a grandfather clock in the 80s, he was a collector-in-waiting, eagerly anticipating retirement when he'd be able to pursue his

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passion for timepieces.

When time became his own, he wasted none of it, setting to work in his garden workshop where he's happily spent hours and days in recent years.

Dowie's pride and joy are not just pretty old clocks. In fact, they are mostly industrial clocks, time recorders used to keep tabs on our everyday lives, mostly in workplaces. And then there are the pigeon clocks – a key element in the world of pigeon fanciers – the workings of which captivate Dowie.

"I love the beautiful machines. I love the arithmetic and the physics of it and the precision. And I guess that is a link back to my professional life. In their beginning, clocks and time-keeping was the rocket science of the day."

"I love the science of it all and the challenge of getting things back into perfect working order. Everything in my collection is working."

Dowie adds that his collection is probably one of the biggest in the country.

These days, an enthusiast doesn't have to travel the world to fossick in barns and shops. The internet has made even obscure things much easier to find. Dowie spends time browsing online, and has alerts on sites such as Ebay and Trade Me that bring listings to his attention.

There's not too much auction-room excitement and banter. His fellow collectors, says Dowie, could be anywhere, buying and often blogging about their shared interest. Some online chit-chat does occur, but the search and research mostly takes place without anyone leaving home.

"It's hard to see how much interest is out there. But I notice when I'm bidding on something, or missing out on buying something, I like the look of on the other side of the world. It's usually the same handful of blokes in there bidding too."

Luckily for Dowie, his UK-based adult offspring are willing to pick up, pack and despatch some of his purchases back home to dad in Devonport.

The largest pieces in his collection are turret clocks that once stood in public places in the UK, to be read at a glance in the local vicinity. "Field workers would have been looking up at them from far off to keep track of the day."

Pendulum clocks are another interest. Many are known as 'one-second pendulums' – based on the second it takes the pendulum to swing. But London's famous Big Ben, says Dowie, has a two-second pendulum with a bigger, longer swing needed to drive the massive 10-foot arms around the clock face.

He points out a small British clock in his living room, with a bell carrying the illegible initials of the same craftsman who made the bell that still chimes from Big Ben.

And then there are the punch clocks or

*"I love the beautiful machines. I love the arithmetic and the physics of it and the precision."*

time recorders that were used to gauge workers', watchmen's, supervisors' and others' start and end times.

Dowie's collection of maybe a dozen little pigeon clocks come with their own stories.

Although people have been racing pigeons through history, it became apparent in the last century that the practice of just telling of your bird's fast arrival home was no longer reliable. With big money to be made, pigeon fanciers had to have fraud-proof clocks.

Each bird carried a ring on its leg that on its arrival would be put into the pigeon clock in such a way as to store proof of the exact time.

Clubs gave some leeway in their rules about how often the clocks could be touched or opened, to compensate for jiggles on the homeward tram. But more

than a few fiddles were recorded, leading to disqualification from the race.

Recently, a search for the right carbon paper to feed the record-keeping feature of one clock, sent Dowie in search to a pigeon-racing club. Sure enough, someone was able to supply the old-style inked paper he was after to complete the restoration to full working order.

One of the most irksome modern conventions for this collector and restorer is daylight savings.

"It's a total pain in the neck," says Dowie, just days from the next occurrence.

"It takes me about two days to get them all changed over again," he laments, adding that all year round most of them need to be wound with their own individual keys every eight days.

And the task isn't getting any easier. "Some are stiff and hard to turn. I might need to hire a lad to wind them one day."

To those of a certain age, the clocks are a splendid, gleaming sight, with a comforting sound familiar not so many years ago.

New additions are delivered to Dowie by courier in a very sorry, silent state, however. They'll be wrapped in newspaper and covered in dust and grime.

But then Dowie gets his skilled hands on them. "I get them going, eventually. I work at each one quite intently."

It takes about a month, but I have plenty of time. It can take however long I like," he grins.



## Holy Trinity Church is here to help and support the Devonport Community

Self Isolated      Short of Food

Need to chat      Want someone to pray with you

Give us a call or email:

Rev Charmaine Braatvedt: 445-0378 vicar@holytrinity.gen.nz

Andie Levell: 445-0328 admin@holytrinity.gen.nz

We will continue to run our Sunday Services as long as permitted in accordance with the Health & Safety protocols for the Covid19 pandemic. The church will be open during the day for private prayer and reflection.

For your convenience both the 8am and 9.30am Sunday Services are streamed live. Go to our webpage:

[www.holytrinity.gen.nz](http://www.holytrinity.gen.nz) and click on the 'Live Service' button.



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## BAYSWATER

1/14 BERESFORD STREET



### TENDER

Closes on 7 Apr 2020 at 4:00pm  
(unless sold prior)

### VIEWING

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**Tracey Lawrence**  
021 1720 681  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Trish Fitzgerald**  
021 952 452  
Devonport 09 445 2010



## DEVONPORT

144 CALLIOPE ROAD



### TENDER

Closes on 8 Apr 2020 at 4:00pm  
(unless sold prior)

### VIEWING

By Appointment  
[www.barfoot.co.nz/789327](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/789327)

### OWNED BY THE SAME FAMILY FOR OVER A HUNDRED YEARS

If the walls could talk in this glorious family villa there would be some stories to be told. Generations have grown up in this four bedroom character home on an enviable 822m<sup>2</sup> section. The north facing back garden has provided years of pleasure and entertainment for all. The front of the home looks out to the Auckland city landscape and it is only a two minute walk to the city ferry. The location is premium with Stanley Bay school just around the corner. Let this be your long term home!



**Carol Wetzell**  
027 245 3392  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Cathy Fiebig**  
021 383 149  
Devonport 09 445 2010

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## DEVONPORT

21 EMPIRE ROAD



### TENDER

Closes on 8 Apr 2020 at 4:00pm  
(unless sold prior)

### VIEWING

By Appointment  
[www.barfoot.co.nz/789413](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/789413)

### A GORGEOUS FAMILY HOME TO CREATE LIFELONG MEMORIES

With so much on offer it's hard to imagine where to start. Upon entering the main residence a staircase leads to 5 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. The master bedroom has a balcony that's just perfect for that late night wine. Downstairs is all about living with 2 lounges, an office and an open plan layout with a designer kitchen and very large dining room. Bi-folding doors provide an effortless flow to the wrap around deck. As a bonus there is a 1 bedroom apartment for extended family. Double garaging for all the toys, this home ticks all the boxes.



**Carol Wetzel**  
027 245 3392  
[c.wetzel@barfoot.co.nz](mailto:c.wetzel@barfoot.co.nz)  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Cathy Fiebig**  
021 383 149  
[c.fiebig@barfoot.co.nz](mailto:c.fiebig@barfoot.co.nz)  
Devonport 09 445 2010

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### DEVONPORT 98 VICTORIA ROAD



#### VILLAGE LIVING EXTRAORDINAIRE!

Packed with personality and further potential, this 3/4 bedroom villa will most certainly delight those looking for location PLUS charm.

Abandon the vehicles! This is the cornerstone of Devonport and village life and a savvy move for the future!

#### FOR SALE

\$2,195,000

#### VIEWING

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021 909 549  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Toni Gregory**  
021 044 3663  
Devonport 09 445 2010



### DEVONPORT 7/66 VICTORIA ROAD



#### FOR SALE

By Negotiation

#### VIEWING

By Appointment

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**Sue Harrison**  
021 909 549  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Toni Gregory**  
021 044 3663  
Devonport 09 445 2010



### BAYSWATER 2 PRESTON AVENUE

#### AUCTION

10:00am 16 Apr 2020 at Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna (unless sold prior)

#### VIEWING

By Appointment

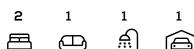
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**Lance Richardson**  
021 796 660  
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**YOUR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY?**  
A charming 1940s bungalow, on 691m<sup>2</sup>, solidly built, and ready to go for another 50 years, move in and enjoy or develop something special! With neighbouring properties under multi unit development it provides a new owner with a possible road map with council approval. Water views from a second floor and extended settlement, call now!

### DEVONPORT 4/64 VICTORIA ROAD



#### FOR SALE

\$949,000

#### VIEWING

By Appointment

[www.barfoot.co.nz/784486](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/784486)



**Kim Byrne**  
021 473 262  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Lance Richardson**  
**AREINZ**  
021 796 660  
Devonport 09 445 2010

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## DEVONPORT 49A ALBERT ROAD



### TENDER

Closes on 21 Apr 2020 at 4:00pm  
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### VIEWING

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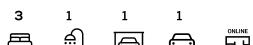
**Trish Fitzgerald**  
021 952 452  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Tracey Lawrence**  
021 1720 681  
Devonport 09 445 2010



## DEVONPORT 2/3 ASCOT AVENUE



### AUCTION

10:00am 26 Mar 2020 at Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna (unless sold prior)

### VIEWING

By Appointment  
[www.barfoot.co.nz/788753](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/788753)

Built in the 1980's this 3 bedroom home (master upstairs on a mezzanine floor with its own semi ensuite) and with a fully combined bathroom and large open plan living/kitchen space downstairs this is an ideal home to enjoy as it is and allow plenty of time to wheel down the golf clubs, launch your boat off the Narrow Neck ramp or grab some coffee and toast yourself for a savvy decision to buy.



**Cathy Fiebig**  
021 383 149  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Carol Wetzell**  
027 245 3392  
Devonport 09 445 2010

## BAYSWATER 33 PHILOMEL CRESCENT



### TENDER

Closes on 25 Mar 2020 at 4:00pm  
(unless sold prior)

### VIEWING

Phone For Viewing Times  
[www.barfoot.co.nz/788065](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/788065)



**Trish Fitzgerald**  
021 952 452  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Tracey Lawrence**  
021 1720 681  
Devonport 09 445 2010



## DEVONPORT 12 DOMAIN STREET



### FOR SALE

By Negotiation

### VIEWING

By Appointment  
[www.barfoot.co.nz/787049](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/787049)



**Carol Wetzell**  
027 245 3392  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**Pam Riley**  
021 949 401  
Takapuna 09 489 5084

### MUST BE SOLD - BEST BUY AROUND

This large renovated 1930s family home with double garaging is in sought after Domain Street. The Devonport cricket, bowling and rugby clubs are at the end of the road and it is just around the corner to Devonport waterfront and village. Sitting on a sunny 531m<sup>2</sup> site, don't miss out, the vendor says sell!

# Board votes against 'going to the people'

A move to increase the number of locally-held community forums in the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board area has been rejected.

Board member Ruth Jackson wanted to double the number of community forums held in surrounding suburbs – rather than at the board offices in Takapuna – from every two months, to monthly.

But the motion was defeated at the board's meeting last week. Members Jackson, Trish Deans and Jan O'Connor voted in favour, while George Wood, Aidan Bennett and Toni van Tonder voted against. Chair Ben-

nett used his casting vote to reject the idea.

Deans said the forums allowed the public to be better engaged with the board.

O'Connor said only 32 per cent of the public voted in the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board area in the last local-body election.

"We do not excite the public – if they don't come to us we need to go to them."

The community forum was an ideal way for residents to come forward to voice issues in their neighbourhood, she said.

Jackson said the whole point of being a local member was to engage with the

community.

"If we don't encourage more community involvement, I don't know what we are doing here."

Van Tonder was concerned about the increased costs of staff and venue hire incurred by going out into the community.

The numbers of community forums in local suburbs could be increased if numbers at the two-monthly forums warranted it, she said.

Wood said few residents turned up during community board times a decade ago, when meetings were held in local areas.

## Hamana St upgrade knocked back by AT

Safety improvements and road-seal upgrades to a Narrow Neck 'rat run' have been rejected by Auckland Transport (AT).

Residents from Hamana St – commonly used as an alternative route to Lake Rd during peak times – went to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board last year seeking changes.

However, a 2019 traffic survey showed around 3000 vehicles used the road per day, much below the 10,000 threshold for smooth seal instead of the cheaper chip-seal roading, AT told board members last week.

The road was also safe in terms of speeding and driver behaviour, according

to audits by AT engineers.

However, board member Toni van Tonder was unconvinced, saying she would not let her children cross Hamana St as it is too dangerous. Walking-school-bus organisers were also concerned about the road's safety. A zebra crossing is needed, van Tonder said.

## THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



**Every year the New Zealand Defence Force assists the Department of Conservation in their important work ensuring the sub-Antarctic Islands remain a pest and predator free World Heritage Site. Recently HMNZS Canterbury, her crew and DOC staff were on Campbell Island helping the locals – like this little guy. A Yellow-eyed Penguin (Hoiho).**

**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**

 **NAVY**  
TE TAUA MOANA O AOTEAROA

## Aliya ready to go it alone after treble of riding victories

Cheltenham eight-year-old Aliya Kirkwood won three rider-and-pony titles at the Horse of the Year show in Hastings earlier this month.

Having competed so far in events in which her mother Jessica held her pony's lead, the Vauxhall School pupil can now look forward to her first year of riding without the pony being led.

"I would love to compete in the Horse of the Year again," she says.

She was "really nervous", but also feeling "confident" during her rides in Hastings, keeping her posture straight – "elbows back", she explains.

Jessica Kirkwood, who herself used to compete in horse-and-pony competitions when she was younger, is extremely proud of Aliya's success.

"One of the highlights for me this season was after Aliya won Lead Rein Rider of the Year. She said 'Mum, I now believe in myself,'" says Kirkwood.

"Horse-and-pony riding isn't a big thing in Devonport, so when people find out Aliya is from here, they are quite surprised," she says.

Aliya competed in the 'lead rein' class and as well as taking out rider of the year, she also won Paced and Mannered Lead Rein Pony of the Year, and Lead Rein Pony of the Year.

She was also awarded Best Presented Lead Rein Pony in her class.

"No other rider-and-pony combination has ever won all three titles in one go," says Kirkwood.

Aliya's grey pony, Taurimu Da Vince (Leo), is stabled in Coatesville, where Aliya trains with him at the Coatesville Reserve and Pony Club.

**Reining champion... Aliya Kirkwood on her pony, Leo Da Vince, with her mother, Jessica**



## WAITEMATA GOLF CLUB A MESSAGE FROM THE GM

### CLUB FITTING / DEMO DAY

As the course will be closed for coring on the 6, 7 and 8 of April, it is the perfect opportunity to have Ping and Wilson representatives demonstrating their latest model drivers, woods, hybrids, irons, wedges and putters. So if you have been thinking about making a change or would just like to try the latest technology, please reserve a time slot with either Mark, Cole or Brad in the pro shop — call 09-445-8716.

**Date: Tuesday 7 April, from 9am to 2pm.**

### COURSE UPGRADES

After the coring work, we will start building our new 12th green from the 13 April. During the build, the 12th hole will be out of play and 15A/15B will be in play. On Tuesday 14 April, the 11th green will also be out of play as we are taking the good turf from the 12th green and replacing it in the bad patches on 11. We will keep you updated with progress as we move towards opening the hole again in summer.

### CAFE OPEN

The one constant during all of these maintenance upgrades is that the course cafe will be open. Please drop by for a coffee or tea — we will be here!

Regards

Hayden McCallum  
General Manager



### CLUB FITTING DAY

### WAITEMATA GOLF CLUB

7TH APRIL - 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM  
PLEASE MAKE A BOOKING WITH THE PRO SHOP ON 09 445 8716

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

All golf related enquiries: [mark@theclubroom.co.nz](mailto:mark@theclubroom.co.nz)

All social enquiries, including room hire: [thewaitematabar@gmail.com](mailto:thewaitematabar@gmail.com)

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.



## Childhood and wartime memories vivid for new centurion

**Long-time Devonport resident Irene Way turned 100 this month. Jodi Yeats asked about the secret of her longevity.**

"Going with the flow and doing what you feel is right," is 100-year-old Devonport resident Irene Way's recipe for a long life.

"You have got to not only think of yourself but always think of other people and what you can do for them," the devout Catholic says.

Daughter Trish Fitzgerald reckons her mother's sense of humour has everything to do with getting to 100.

Way, who still lives in her own home with son Michael and rescue dog Eva, clocked up her century on 9 March, celebrating with family and friends at Wakatere Boating Club, Narrow Neck, the following weekend.

Her memories of growing up in Northampton in the United Kingdom, remain vivid, as do her recollections of World War II service before she immigrated to New Zealand in 1948.

Born Irene Rouse in 1920, her father was a policeman and her mother obliged to act as receptionist, nurse and counsellor to those coming into the station.

It was the time before radios," Trish Fitzgerald says. "A message would come to the house and Mum or [elder sister] Auntie May would then be given the task of going to where Grandad was on point duty and give him the message.

"Our grandfather would see them approaching and stop the traffic, so they could come and deliver their important message.

"Mum recalls feeling very important, because traffic was stopped so she could safely deliver the message."

Way joined the British Auxiliary Corps in February 1939, and was deployed to Egypt, aged 19, travelling a circuitous route around the Cape of Good Hope on a troopship. As one of a handful of women on board, she never had to buy a drink.

In Cairo, Way worked on a switchboard in command headquarters. There she made lifelong friends, including Agnes Milne, nicknamed "Johnny", who later emigrated to New Zealand with Way and two other wartime mates.

One Christmas, the group were feeling homesick. So after dinner, they went onto the roof of their building and sprayed talcum powder around to pretend it was snow.

They also hitch-hiked across the Sinai desert to spend the weekend in Jerusalem, despite it then being in a war zone.

Way reckons she got her travelling over with back then.

After arriving at the Fort Cautley immigration centre in Narrow Neck, she stayed permanently in Devonport.

"It's a nice place," she says.

Way met her future husband, Brendon, at a 'lonely-hearts' social club and they married in 1958.

Daughters Fitzgerald and Susan Jensen, who both live in Devonport, recall their mother's wartime friends being like part of the family.

Among their happy memories are picnics at Long Bay and holidays in an Austin 40 packed to the gunnels.

Brendon was a keen amateur photographer, with many cameras, including for movies, and his wife wound up carrying the gear bags.

Inspired by the cooking of her homeland, Way served the family interesting dishes, including tripe and onions, sweetbreads and steamed puddings.

Another speciality, lolly cake, remains a firm family favourite today, for her four children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



**Enjoying a laugh... Irene Way celebrating her recent 100th birthday (above), in the army during World War II (right) and with a group of friends enjoying their first breakfast in New Zealand at the Narrow Neck hostel in 1948 (below, Way second from right)**



## TGS top co-ed at North Island secondary school rowing regatta

Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club is on a high after finishing third overall and being named the top co-ed rowing school at the North Island Secondary School Rowing Championships at Lake Karapiro on Sunday 15 March.

Club rowers made 15 A finals and five B finals, finishing with five gold medals, one silver and a bronze. The result is by far the best ever achieved by Takapuna Grammar (TGS) at a major regatta since the school started its rowing programme.

Gold medal winners among the boys were Evan Williams in the boys under-18 single sculls and the formidable duo of Connor Bacchus and Mika Hessling in the boys under-16 double sculls. Connor also won a bronze medal in the boys under-16 single sculls.

Evan has been the standout rower at TGS for the last three years and is well placed for selection in the New Zealand junior squad this year.

In the girls group, the under-15 squad won gold medals in the coxed octuple sculls, the coxed quadruple sculls and the double sculls races.

In their first race on finals day, Imogen Butcher, Annabelle Knowles, Skye Lang, Daisy Butcher and Sydelle Langis won gold medals in the coxed quadruple sculls.

They then went on with Anna Stuart, Ella Ryan, Kira Sharrock, Tahlia Bull and Olivia Wilson, to win the coxed octuple sculls in an outstanding time of 6 minutes and 54 seconds. This was believed to be a national record, and the first time a New Zealand girls under-15 octuple crew has broken 7 minutes.

The standout athletes in the girls group were Annabelle Knowles and Skye Lang, who also went on to win the under-15 girls double sculls, giving the pair three gold medals and North Island Champion titles.

The results come at the end of an extremely successful season for the TGS row-



**North Island champions... Four of the TGS under-15 girls quad crew (from left): Imogen Butcher, Skye Lang, Annabelle Knowles and Daisy Butcher**

ing club, in which they have been Auckland champions and also won three national titles at the New Zealand Indoor Rowing Championships.

Unfortunately, due to the impact of Covid-19, the club will not be able to compete

for national titles at the annual Maadi Cup regatta, which has been cancelled.

However, the coaching team and athletes are already planning their approach to improve even further in the 2021 rowing season.

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*Now welcoming new members!*

With the recent events around Cov19 Devonport Rotary are here and willing to help. Internationally, Rotary are busy putting in place emergency plans that will help communities all around the world including providing financial support, food, emergency medication and emotional support.

While this event has led to our movie fundraiser being postponed we are still proudly supporting a forthcoming charity art tender.



Recognised local artist Andi Merkens and her "off the wall" Rotarian collaborator Paddy Stafford-Bush have made affordable art. Together they have created a series of bold and different bespoke artworks for you to tender for. Paddy was inspired by helping Devonport Rotary with its bi-ennial Fine Homes Tour of Devonport last year, to team up with fellow Rotarian Lynda Betts and Bayleys. You can view the artworks displayed in Bayleys office at 83 Victoria Road from 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday until 4.30pm 3rd April 2020 when tenders close. All proceeds will go to the Make A Wish Foundation. The winners of each piece of art will be personally notified of their success.

In the meantime we ask you all to stay safe, 1m apart and support each other as we all live through this together.

This month's column  
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**By Rob Drent**

Roger Giles was a hipster decades before the term was invented. With his flowing beard and independent spirit, he lived life on his own terms.

True community people come along rarely. Mick Gannaway, a former Devonport Community Board deputy chair, was one. Roger was another. What sets them apart? A commitment to a place over many decades, getting on with that commitment without fanfare or acknowledgement, and a slight maverick streak illustrated by giving one, if not two, fingers to the establishment when needed.

Roger's place was The Bunker (home to the Devonport Folk Club) on the slopes of Takarunga, and the wider maunga.

In 1970, Roger and few mates cleaned out The Bunker premises, disused since World

War II, and it has hosted music and bonhomie every Monday night since.

Roger went further: for 50 years, he became the unofficial caretaker of Takarunga. A slightly stooped figure, reminiscent of the bent-over shearer he once was, he walked the mountain, his dog alongside, picking up rubbish and weeding its slopes by hand. If he found a receipt with a person's name on it, he would post the rubbish back to them.

His role was challenged when the Tūpuna Maunga Authority, established in 2014, took over management of the mountain. Maintenance programmes were introduced, systems formalised. To his credit, Roger carried on and was happy to pose on the mountain for the Flagstaff, with his trusty grubber – a volunteer getting on with the job in the face of corporate doublespeak.

I was on the Bruce Mason stage with Roger in 2010, when we both received awards from North Shore City (then being disestablished) for contributions to the community. I recall him saying, "I don't quite know what we are doing here". I felt the same. I was just doing my job, and Roger had simply remained true to his passions: music and the mountain.

He used to drop into our office regularly with titbits of news from around the village. At the height of the Flagstaff campaign to get rid of the synthetic-cannabis drug Kronic from dairies, he arrived with a few empty packets of a different brand he found discarded on Takarunga, to show it was still a live issue. "Keep the pressure on," he said.

He had a great rapport with our former reporter Maire Vieth, begun from stories and dog meet-ups on the mountain and forged by a common sense of what a community means.

I don't drink much these days, but at some stage I'll raise a glass of red to you, Roger. Cheers to a life well lived, and thanks for what you've done for Devonport, your cheeky smile and for making our world less bland and ordinary.



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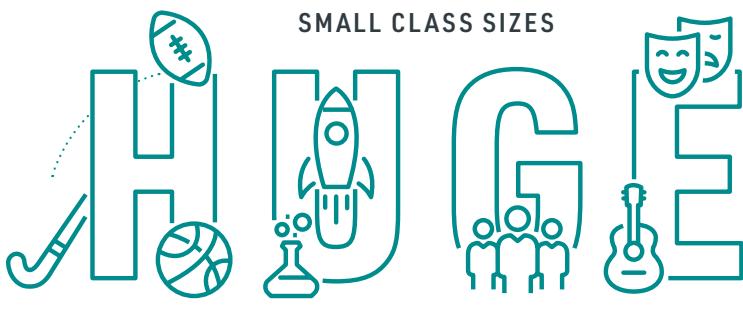
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## 'Testing 1, 2, 3' – show time at the Fair on the Hill



On the mic... Charlie Palmer, Catherine Sturgess Taylor and Rhiannon McAnally (all 6), take the stage at Devonport Primary's Fair on the Hill, held on 14 March. Photos: Keeley Watson.

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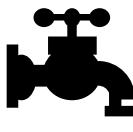


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## New targeted rat-kill programme

The Restoring Takarunga Hauraki (RTH) project is launching a targeted rat-eradication programme south of Waitemata Golf Club course.

The new plan was inspired by a recently launched initiative in the Eastern Bays'.

Pest Free Coordinator Lance Cablk had asked Brett Butland, Auckland Council's Pest Free Auckland 2050 programme director, for feedback on the RTH plan to gradually expand its rat-control work with a halo of traps spreading out from intensively trapped areas like Maungauika.

"Brett said that was thinking too small," says Cablk. "Restoring Takarunga Hauraki has done a good job of controlling rats in Devonport, but it was never going to eradicate predators by a modest expansion of the

existing programme."

Instead, Butland urged the group to create an eradication plan for the whole area south of the natural barrier at Narrow Neck.

As an example, Butland highlighted the work Auckland Council was doing in conjunction with the Eastern Songbird Project on the peninsula that includes Glendowie, St Heliers, Mission Bay and Orakei and covers 20,000 households and 1400 hectares.

Through Auckland Council's Natural Environment Targeted Rate, a grid has been created aiming to have traps every 50 metres over the whole peninsula. Council had contacted householders in the properties selected by the grid and almost all had agreed to take traps.

To ensure the traps were regularly checked, they were fitted with simple radio devices that could signal whether they had been triggered, or if they had been re-baited, so volunteers could be sent out, as required, to maintain them.

"We asked whether this could be done for Devonport, and Brett said it certainly could," says Cablk. "The funding is available thanks to the targeted rate, RTH has the volunteers already in place and the Devonport peninsula, with its natural barriers, is an ideal location."

RTH hopes to have a further meeting with Butland to start putting the eradication plan into action. Cablk says he expects to see the effects of the programme within as little as two years.

## Water leaks despite notification

A water pipe was leaking for six weeks during this summer's drought – despite a resident reporting the fault numerous times.

Michele Lennan first complained to Watercare in early February, when the leak on the corner of Abbotsford Tce and Victoria Rd was a trickle. It gradually turned into a steady flow.

"Every time you ring Watercare, you first listen to an automated message saying there is a water shortage," Lennan says.

She phoned again a fortnight later and was advised the job had been logged, then again, shortly afterwards, and was told a digger had been booked for 9 March.

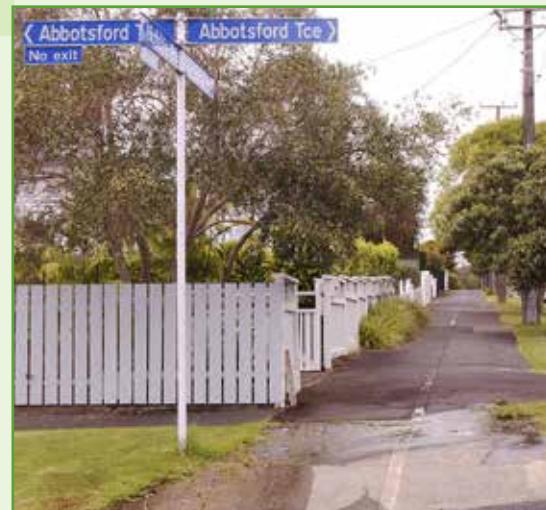
On 11 March, Lennan called and asked why the digger hadn't come, and was left a notice saying, "Job is currently on hold as excavation crew will attend in due time." The leak was eventually repaired on 19 March.

In late January, a neighbour complained about a leak on the opposite corner, which had still not been fixed last week.

The Flagstaff is aware of other leaks, as well as large cracks appearing in footpaths, as the North Island endures a lengthy drought.

The last edition (13 March) featured an article about Belmont residents alerting Watercare to a major leak in Montgomery Rd, which was subsequently repaired.

Watercare says the drought has caused an unprecedented number of leaking pipes, as the ground shrinks and breaks pipes. Extra staff had been employed and repair crews are working long hours, media advisor Maxine Clayton says. Leaks are fixed in order of priority.



**Precious commodity... water flows onto the street, despite a resident alerting Watercare**

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**Sunday 5th April 3 - 4pm.**

**Community consultation regarding our draft comments to the Local Board Plan. All welcome, venue TBC Contact Lance.**

For further information please visit Restoring Takuranga Hauraki's Facebook page events. Or contact RTH programme coordinator Lance Cablik  
[pestfreedevonport@gmail.com](mailto:pestfreedevonport@gmail.com)

**Friends of Achilles Reserve**  
**Sunday April 26th 3 - 4:30pm.**

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## Cycle lanes big winner in Lake Rd proposal

The \$47-million Lake Rd improvements package includes separated cycle lanes along the peninsula, targeted transit lanes (T2 lanes), safety improvements and intersection upgrades, as well as a new shared walking/cycling path on Bayswater Ave. New roadside electronic signs will provide traffic updates.

Auckland Transport (AT) announced the latest version of the upgrade last week. Residents can submit feedback on the proposal until 12 April.

The public can also say how they want the Belmont centre redeveloped, with new public spaces, relocated bus stops and improved pedestrian crossings proposed.

Buying extra land and road-widening have been rejected as part of the Lake Rd plan, as

being too expensive and disruptive.

The separated cycle lane will run the length of Lake Rd from Albert Rd to Esmonde Rd, while the T2 transit lanes will go northwards from Eversleigh Rd, through Esmonde Rd to the motorway.

The enhancements planned for a revitalised Belmont Centre precinct, include wider footpaths, new pedestrian crossings to the north of the intersection and reconfigured parking.

The Lake Rd project timeline has consultation running through this month and next, a summary report produced in May or June, with construction of improvements to start in mid-to-late 2021.

For more information and to make a submission, go to [at.govt.nz/projects-roadworks](http://at.govt.nz/projects-roadworks).



#### What is proposed

- Improved streetscape
- Rose Gardens improved
- More and improved public space
- Wider footpaths
- Safer intersection
- New pedestrian crossings to the north
- Separated cycle lanes
- Reconfigured parking areas



**New-look Belmont... Cycle lanes are shown in green, parking in blue. Smaller image: An artist's impression of a future Belmont Centre, looking south.**

## Bennett and Wood at odds over plan

Planned Lake Rd improvements have exposed a difference of opinion between Devonport-Takapuna Local Board chair Aidan Bennett and deputy chair George Wood.

Bennett and Wood were on different tickets prior to last year's local-body elections, but have since aligned on the newly formed board, block-voting on key decisions such as public workshops and community forums.

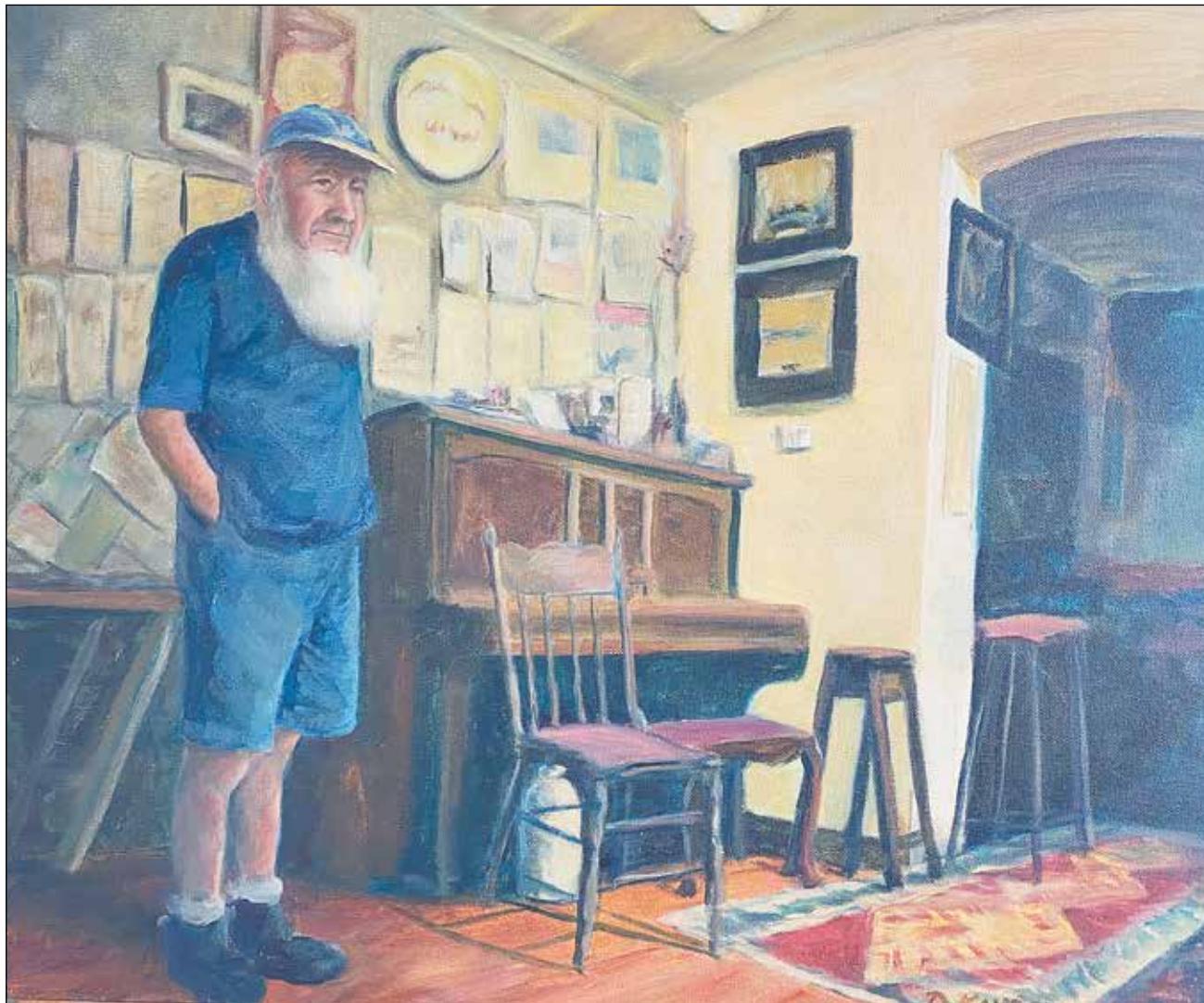
However, Wood has criticised the Auckland Transport \$47 million plan for Lake Rd for not providing bus lanes. He also has concerns about how traffic will thread through the

troublesome Belmont intersection.

But Bennett told a board meeting last week that after 15 years of plans, consultations and discussions, the time for talking about the project was over. Auckland Transport had come up with a proposal which could be tweaked by the public, but the money needed to be spent on improvements.

Board member Jan O'Connor criticised the plan as trying to achieve too much, stretching to changes on Bayswater Ave and Esmonde Rd. The bus lane on Esmonde Rd would be compromised by the changes, she said.

# Roger was a true king of the mountain



**At his second home... Roger Giles in typical pose at The Bunker on Takarunga**

*Painting by David Kayrouz*

Roger Giles, the founding father of The Bunker folk-music venue and unofficial caretaker of Takarunga has died, aged 80.

Born in England, Giles grew up in a Berkshire pub run by his father, the scene of his first encounters with live music.

Brought up in a small, country village, he was always keen on the outdoors. And in the early 60s, when working as a shepherd, he met famous Kiwi shearer Godfrey Bowen, who was touring Europe. They talked about New Zealand and shearing, prompting Giles to travel around the world to experience it.

Once here, he quickly warmed to the Kiwi shearers' lifestyle "drinking and doing all the things the shearers did in those days," he told the Flagstaff in a 2001 interview.

Moving to Devonport in 1966, he worked on Auckland's waterfront, in later years for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as an inspector.

The Bunker, which had been disused since World War II, was cleaned out by Giles and

his friends in 1970, and has been home of the Devonport Folk Music Club since.

Members meet on Monday nights. International folk musicians have performed at The Bunker, either at arranged gigs or just jamming with members.

For years, Giles and partner Hilary Worsfold ran the show, with Giles starting every club night with solo song, usually traditional English folk.

For 50 years, Giles was also the unofficial caretaker of Takarunga, walking around the mountain with a rubbish bag in hand and with his dog at his side. He also spent hours hand-weeding the maunga.

In the early 1970s, he was closely involved in the Devonport Borough Council decision to remove cattle from the mountain.

When the management of Auckland's volcanic cones transferred to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority, it was a rocky few years for traditional users, with leases needed and volunteers' traditional rights questioned.

Giles successfully negotiated a \$1 a year rental for the Devonport Folk Club, and car access for members on the now pedestrian-only mountain. The Bunker (after a brief closure to comply with fire regulations) has remained open.

Giles was recognised with a North Shore City Council award for services to the community in 2010.

In recent years, he was also instrumental in establishing the Auckland Folk Festival held at Kumeu, and Folk in the Park, an annual event at Windsor Reserve.

Giles died peacefully at North Shore Hospice on 14 March, after a battle with cancer.

He did not want a funeral. However, family and friends are planning a celebration of his life at a later date. The Flagstaff will provide details when available.

- Do you have any memories and/or photos of Roger Giles? Please email them to [news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz](mailto:news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz) for our next issue.

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## Shore residents most worried about coastal impact of climate change

Sea-level rises and erosion top the list of concerns for North Shore people when questioned about climate change.

Coastal changes were rated as the most important climate issue for 37 per cent of Devonport-Takapuna residents who took part in the Auckland Council survey.

That compared with 20 per cent of wider Auckland residents.

Other key areas of concern for Devonport-Takapuna residents were: access to public transport (34 per cent); risks from flooding (32 per cent); and effects on the local environment (29 per cent).

The survey was part of a council move towards greater emphasis on climate change in its decision-making.

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board raised concerns about air pollution in Auckland and biosecurity risks being exacerbated by climate change.

"A specific issue with Lake Pupuke was highlighted, with the water level rising from stormwater and runoff from roads. This has been causing overflows in some areas," a council report says.

Coastal erosion and management of stormwater were other top concerns for the board. It wanted to see better drain maintenance and storing of excess rainwater.

"Improving access to public transport was seen as a key to increasing usage.

"The board wants council to work with Auckland Transport to provide charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, but did highlight concerns about their affordability," the report says.

## National selects North Shore candidate

The National Party has selected chartered accountant and Waitemata District Health Board executive Simon Watts as its candidate for the blue-ribbon North Shore seat.

Northcote Point resident Watts was chosen in a selection meeting of 60 party members on 12 March, defeating a field of four rival candidates, including former Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member Joe Bergin and Kaipātiki Local Board's Danielle Grant.

North Shore National MP and former cabinet minister Maggie Barry is retiring at the general election in September.

Watts, deputy chief financial officer at Waitemata DHB, was one of the unsuccessful contenders for National's Northcote candidacy in 2018, when Dan Bidois was picked to contest a by-election in the seat.

Married, with two sons, he has a strong academic and financial background, having worked in private and public sector roles in the UK, New Zealand and Asia. He has bachelor degrees in management, accounting and finance, and health science. He worked for the Royal Bank of Scotland in London, in various management roles.

Watts returned to New Zealand with his family in 2013 and took up a role at Counties



**Shore seat... Simon Watts is National's North Shore candidate**

Manukau DHB, moving to Waitemata in 2016.

He also joined St John as a frontline volunteer ambulance officer, and now coordinates other volunteers, as well as attending incidents.

Meanwhile, the Labour Party has confirmed its previous candidate, Romy Udaga, will stand again in the North Shore seat.

## Hauraki toilet block priced at \$264,000

A new toilet block for the Lake Town Green Reserve at Hauraki Corner would cost \$264,000.

Public demand for toilets at the reserve has been building over the years, especially from parents with toddlers.

Auckland Council has investigated four locations within the reserve, with a \$264,000 concrete-style prefabricated unit option

chosen as the safest, with the least impact on the reserve.

However, "the impact on neighbours may be contentious," a report to a Devonport-Takapuna Local Board workshop said. No budget has been set aside for the project.

If it is approved for the 2020/2021 works programme, public consultation and a more detailed design will follow.

## 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+).

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

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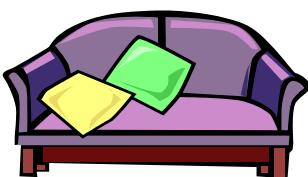
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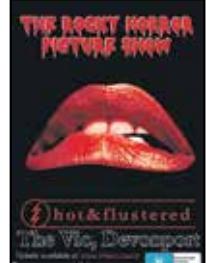
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# Takapuna Grammar SCHOOL NEWS



# Grammar

MAR 27, 2020



## Takapuna Grammar School International Food Market



On Friday 13 March, the annual Takapuna Grammar School International Food Market was back in full swing in the recreational area for another lunchtime filled with delicious delicacies from cultures and countries around the world. From hangi at the Tu Tangata stall to traditional Japanese curry and dango, students were offered a selection of savoury and sweet treats to purchase and enjoy on the benches.

This year, a total of seven stalls joined the market and many students helping out were dolled up in their stall's traditional wear. Music from around the world echoed through the area, providing an even more global atmosphere.

Head of Languages and Deputy Principal Mr Jake Lamb found the event "absolutely fantastic" and said that "it was great to see students enjoying themselves with the sound of different countries' music in the background and the beautiful food fragrances in the air."

Overall, the day was a success, and many students left with full bellies and more knowledge on foods from around the world that they may not have heard of before.

BY WENNA SOON

# Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



# Grammar

MAR 27, 2020



## Peer-Support Success

The dedicated Year 13s and dainty Year 9s finally get their sleep-ins!

That's right – over 70 Year 13 students voluntarily came in at 8:30 am every Wednesday morning to support and help the new Year 9 students settle into Takapuna Grammar School through the Peer Support Programme. The aim of Peer Support is to make the transition into an intimidatingly big and new high school as easy as possible for the Year 9s.

After going through training days themselves – over the course of six weeks – the Year 13s were able to pass on relevant knowledge to their peers on the importance of holistic well-being. Not only was this an invaluable learning opportunity for the junior students, but it also helped them connect with each other on a whole different level.

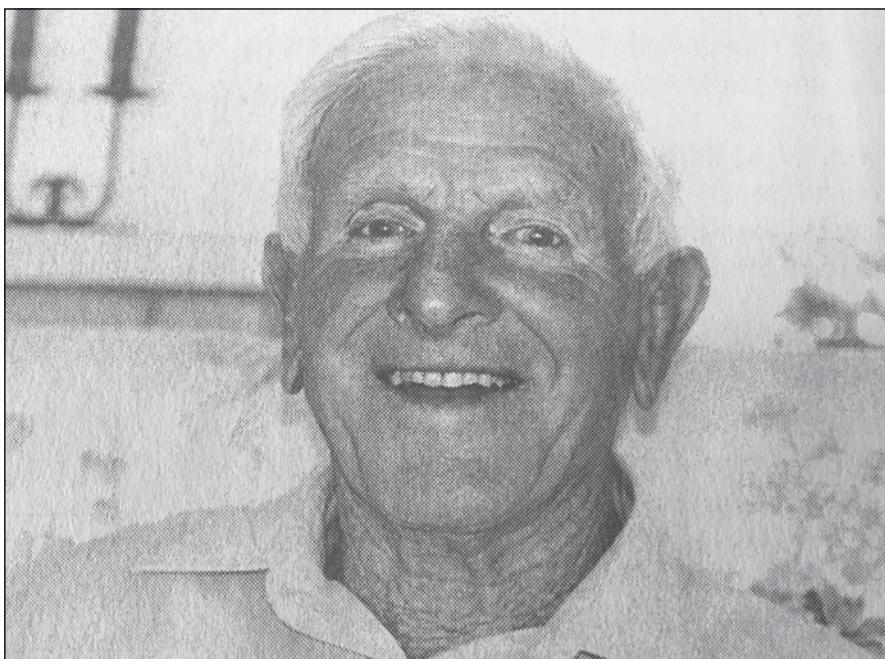
Amelia Yamaguchi, a Year 9 student, says, "The Peer Support Programme truly helped me settle down into TGS. Not only did I make more friends, but my Peer Support Leaders always made me feel comfortable. I'm so grateful for the safe space I experienced through this programme."

The Year 9s and 13s alike are appreciative of the bonds they were able to make through Peer Support.

BY LAIBA BATOOL

## Looking back – 20 years ago from the Flagstaff files

- Yachting supremo Sir Peter Blake puts his Bayswater home on the market as he leaves the country for England. One of his final engagements is a speech to his old school, Takapuna Grammar.
- St Leo's is the only school on the peninsula still allowing smokers to puff on school grounds, Belmont Primary having banned smoking on its grounds.
- Police are still seeking the rapist of a 21-year-old woman on St Leo's grounds in February.
- Devonport landscape designer Cilla Cooper wins gold at the Landscapes Industries Association of New Zealand Awards.
- Torpedo Bay land, previously occupied by the Navy, will be opened to public access from March 20, allowing people to walk around Maungauika from Torpedo Bay, and vice versa.
- A "granite" stone next to the WJ Scott fountain in Clarence St is identified by a geologist as basalt.
- Takapuna Grammar School plans to raise \$1.5 million to construct a facility marking the school's 75th Jubilee in 2002.
- More than \$25,000 is stolen from the Devonport Bar and Brasserie on Victoria Rd after offenders break in through the back door overnight.
- Soccer player Riley Webster is selected for the New Zealand 16th grade development team.
- Around 100 eels are killed in a Belmont stream by chemical run-off from a roof-cleaning company.
- Four Devonport street signs disappear. They will cost \$1500 each to replace.



### Flagstaff interview... Vic Trayes

- Calliope Sea Scouts are looking at reestablishing, and the group has called a public meeting to discuss proposals.
- Oscar, the Devonport 3-Cinemas cat, meets

his match with the arrival of two mice to promote the movie *Stuart Little*.

- Vic Trayes, a lifelong Devonport resident, is the Flagstaff interview subject.

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# Buck brought back, but no players

The opportunity to be coached by All Black great Wayne Shelford in a new national competition would have seemed like a dream opportunity.

But a team he has signed up to coach at North Shore Rugby Club is struggling for numbers.

Shelford was to have coached Shore's 85kg side this year – with the aim of competing in a New Zealand-first national competition for the weight grade.

But indications early in the season are that North Shore won't have a side at all.

"I've put my name forward, and we've

been looking everywhere for players, but it looks like we may not be able to field a team," he says.

North Shore had one of the most successful under-85kg sides in the country several years ago, under player-coach Travis Keane, winning numerous North Harbour championships.

But after Burns left the club a few years ago, numbers dwindled as players aged.

Shelford said the difficulties fielding a 85kg side were indicative of the problems attracting players to the club generally.

"We live on a peninsula – trying to get

back for training at 6pm is not easy."

The numbers of players coming from Takapuna Grammar back to North Shore each year was also falling, with many potential players leaving the area for work or study.

Super Rugby franchises were also scouting widely over all schools. In 2019, North Shore "lost" three boys from Takapuna Grammar: two to the Crusaders development programme and one to the Brumbies.

- With the Covid-19 outbreak doubts hang over whether this competition will go ahead in 2020.

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## Have your say...

## Lake Road Improvements



Auckland Transport is proposing upgrades to Lake Road – this includes new separated cycling facilities, transit lanes and intersection upgrades for Bayswater Avenue and Esmonde Road, plus a Belmont Centre upgrade. Consultation on the proposals is open until Sunday, 12 April 2020.



Speak to the project team at one of the public drop-in sessions or complete the online feedback form at [AT.govt.nz/haveyoursay](http://AT.govt.nz/haveyoursay)

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## BAYSWATER | 31A NORWOOD ROAD | Clifftop | Panoramic View | Water Access



Sharply priced by motivated vendor.  
Absolute waterfront position, breath taking harbour panoramas and views to the America's Cup base  
Set on a 1189sqm (approx) section. 293sqm five bedroom family home.

**VIEW | SUN 1 - 1.45 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT**

**PRICE | \$2.550M**

**PREMIUM.CO.NZ/60580**

**PETER VOLLEBREGT 0274 515 188 | 445 3414**

## DEVONPORT | 15A ASCOT AVENUE | A Contemporary Sanctuary



Rarely does a two bedroom, two bathroom property of this nature come to the market positioned for sun and enjoying a quiet, serene environment. Boasting attention to detail at every turn and beautifully considered for easy modern day living, this unique property presents a special opportunity in the heart of desirable Narrow Neck. Summer starts here!

**VIEW | SAT/SUN 1.15 - 2 PM**

**OR BY APPOINTMENT**

**PRICE | BY NEGOTIATION**

**PREMIUM.CO.NZ/60588**

**KIM PAUSINA 021 201 7488 | 445 3414**