

The Devonport Flagstaff

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✓ **Romy Udanga**
for North Shore

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Authorised by Dianna Lacy,
160 Willis Street, Wellington.

July 31, 2020

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**Blades at the ready:
octogenarian Joy... p3**

**Little & Friday's last days,
landmark cafe to close... p4**

**Interview: 'Movie Man'
Murray Thompson... p20**

Push for electric ferries begins

Auckland Transport (AT) is involved in commercial negotiations over the development of electric ferries.

However it is keeping tight-lipped over what type of discussions are taking place

or what stage they are at.

In January, under the Official Information Act, the Flagstaff sought any reports, emails or letters AT officials had created on investigations into electric ferries on Auckland Harbour.

AT called a couple of times saying it was gathering emails and documents, and that a response would come soon.

Then last week, AT decided not to release

To page 10

Raising a racquet for Bastille Day



Pardon their French... Ngataranga Tennis Club celebrated Bastille Day and its own French links, with an event last week. Story and pictures, page 23.

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NEXT ISSUE: August 14
ADVERTISING DEADLINE: August 7

Old Devonport Borough Council offices for sale

Community buildings and some public land across the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board area will be sold off by the cash-strapped Auckland Council.

They include: 2 Forrest Hill Rd, a 650sqm section of vacant land; 130 sqm of a recreation reserve at 24R Linwood Ave, Forrest Hill; 4 Bloomfield Spa, Takapuna (496sqm of vacant land, which was a former service lane but is now open space); 2 The Strand Takapuna (a category B heritage building on 486 sqm); and the former Devonport Borough Council building at 3 Victoria Rd – a category-A heritage building on 468 sqm of land, described as an

earthquake-prone building, which has been vacant for two years.

Council’s Finance and Performance Committee this month voted to include the properties for “asset recycling.”

Final terms and conditions for the sale will be subject to council approval.

North Shore Councillors Chris Darby and Richard Hills voted against selling off 3 Victoria Rd.

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board resolved in a split vote at its last meeting to approve any sales seen as necessary by the council.

Board members Aidan Bennett, George Wood and Toni van Tonder voted to support the sales process.

Ruth Jackson, Trish Deans and Jan O’Connor were vehemently opposed.

Chair Aidan Bennett used his casting vote to get the approval through.

Questions on the exact sale process, how the properties will be valued and if the community will be allowed to put in expressions of interest first before they go on the open market were put to Auckland Council last week. It had not responded by deadline.

See the Flagstaff Notes, page 12.

3 Victoria Rd: empty for 753 days

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

It has now been unoccupied for 753 days. Auckland Council development arm Panuku is working through the future options for the building.



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Age and rodents no barrier for 80-year-old rollerblader



Ready to roll... Joy Mace is looking forward to resuming rollerblading, an activity she took up in her 50s

To celebrate her 80th birthday, Joy Mace is getting new rollerblades.

“I have always enjoyed rollerblading. It kept me fit,” the Devonport resident says.

She is replacing her 20-year-old rollerblades, on which she used to commute from Devonport to Greenlane Hospital when she worked as a nurse.

Although Mace is a little out of practice and will be sure to don protective gear, she believes ageing shouldn’t be the reason you stop doing what you enjoy.

Mace and her husband Howard run Admiral’s Landing bed and breakfast on Anne St.

Howard, who is the president of the Devonport RSA, has recently undergone chemotherapy and has been battling cancer.

Along with her return to rollerblading, Mace stays active as a dedicated rat-trapping

volunteer.

She says volunteering for community groups involves meeting like-minded people and often some exercise.

“This is especially important if an older person loses a spouse or significant person in their life. It is important in relation to both general and mental health,” she says.

Injuries from falls can be avoided with exercise to improve strength, she says.

Mace says the traps used for rat-trapping on the Devonport peninsula are designed to kill rodents instantly by breaking their necks.

“It would certainly meet Jacinda [Ardern]’s direction to ‘be kind’,” she says. “Kindness is, unfortunately, not a feature of the way predator species injure and often kill native birds and lizards.”

Pedestrian seriously injured on road

Police investigations into a pedestrian-car collision on Vauxhall Rd last Friday evening are continuing.

The male pedestrian was taken to North Shore Hospital and was discharged on Monday.

The accident happened between Moata Pl and Bath St at around 6.30pm.

Initial reports were that the pedestrian was seriously injured. The Serious Crash Unit was at the scene.

Locals take on national magazine

Devonport locals Konstantin Richter and Verena Friederike Hasel are the new owners of *North & South* magazine.

The journalists purchased the magazine from Bauer Media after it shut all its New Zealand titles as the country went into lockdown.

The couple’s ownership of *North & South*

continues a long Devonport association with the magazine.

It was founded by local journalists Warwick Roger and Robyn Langwell, who was editor for more than 20 years.

Richter and Hasel will be interviewed on RNZ’s Mediawatch programme on Sunday.

Last orders called for treats at landmark cafe

The call for last doughnuts is coming round fast at Little & Friday's original Belmont cafe.

After 14 years trading in Eversleigh Rd, this Sunday (2 August) will be the last day of operation for the popular local landmark, which draws fans from across the city.

Owner Kim Evans, who was surprised when terms of a new lease at Eversleigh Rd could not be agreed, says: "It's quite overwhelming."

Not only is she shutting up shop, but moving from her home behind the cafe. "It's the end of an era," she says.

"People come in here every day, they're like family. One little boy has been here every day of his life – he's 10 now."

Evans, who has a second family home on Waiheke, is staying positive, planning to squeeze a kitchen into her Newmarket cafe so she can carry on cooking from that site.

After 20 years on the peninsula, she is sad that, for now anyway, she won't be catering to loyal cafe customers here. But she says everything has happened too quickly to find suitable local premises from which to run both a commercial kitchen and cafe.

"It's not enough time for me to find somewhere else locally, so I'm closing down."

"As hard as it is, I believe it's time. I feel like the lockdown has done that for a lot of people," she told the Devonport Flagstaff during packing.

Evans says her love of cooking is undimmed, but she will be focusing more on bakery items to go or from the counter, with fewer tables and no menu.

Of the 12 full-time staff at Belmont, some will transfer to Newmarket, but five will lose their jobs.

Evans says post-lockdown trading had been exceeding expectations. Both the Belmont and Newmarket cafes were busy, with only her third store on High St, Auckland, quieter, due to fewer people in the CBD.

With three successful cookbooks under her belt, and regular placements on top cafe lists, Little & Friday has kept Evans busy.

The need for a small commercial kitchen, rather than baking from home, is what led to her first move into the then tired and mostly empty block of old Eversleigh Rd shops.



Moving on... Kim Evans with Little & Friday's famous doughnuts

She took on the middle store and chose her cafe's name to reflect its small size and that it opened initially only on Fridays.

By four or five years ago, she had occupied all five stores in the strip. Real estate agents now use the cafe as a selling point when marketing homes nearby.

Before Little & Friday, Evans ran Ice It in Church St for six years, in the building that is now Five Loaves cafe.

Then a Titirangi resident, she came upon the "for lease" sign by accident when taking a wrong turn on a visit to Cheltenham Beach.

After a time in Christchurch, she returned north and briefly ran her business from premises on King Edward Pde. In the early days, she also sold her baking at Takapuna Market.

The move to Belmont sparked expansion and recognition.

Looking back, Evans thinks at times she tried to do too much. She pulled back on an experiment of selling evening meals and admits to looking at selling the business last year. She says she is now excited to reconfigure the "experience" at Newmarket.

She's hoping loyal customers might cross the bridge from time to time to pick up a sweet or savoury treat.

"It's been wonderful here, it's been so fantastic – who would have thought when I opened that little shop it would have grown to this."

• Building owner Joe Martin says that since Evans tried to sell the business 18 months ago, it operated under a variety of short-term leases, the latest of which ended on 1 August.

"I would have been quite happy for her to carry on beyond that, but she only wanted to lease 40 per cent of the block, which didn't work for us."

As Little & Friday has grown over the years, the five units were converted into essentially one building. Martin says there are no plans to develop the building. He will be advertising for a tenant.



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Local musician releases his first track in te reo

When Bayswater musician Apera Woodfine was performing at a wedding in Spain earlier this year, everyone put down their drinks, stopped the small talk and just started dancing.

It was in that moment with a crowd full of energy that Woodfine said to himself, "This is what I love doing."

Back home in Devonport, he has just released his first te reo Maori track, *E Hikoi*.

It's one of his proudest moments. "It's really important to me to produce nice and consumable music in te reo Maori. I felt like I was offering something helpful for people who want to speak Maori and learn more," he said.

Of the songs he has written, *E Hikoi* is his favourite. He had the beat for it first, then wrote the melody.

The song has lyrics about spiritual awakening, the evolution of the planet and human consciousness.

Woodfine, 27, is taking a university paper on te reo Maori to refresh his fluency.

His musical style has gone from that of a singer-songwriter with guitar as his main instrument to more alternative tunes experimenting with electronic beats. Woodfine goes by his first name, Apera, in his music career.

In May, he released a single, *Gratitude*. Last year, he put out an album, *Cuts Like a Knife* and three singles.

An earlier album, *Lift You Up*, was released in 2017, and an EP *The Operator* in 2015.

E Hikoi is available on all major streaming platforms including Spotify and iTunes.

Woodfine has been strumming guitar tunes and writing songs since he was first given a guitar at age 10.

He moved to Devonport from the UK when he was just two years old, when his



Taking aim... Apera Woodfine plans to back up his latest single with a full te reo Maori album

dad, James Woodfine, joined the New Zealand Navy.

Apera attended Bayswater School and Takapuna Grammar School.

When he was young, he listened to bands such as Radiohead and Coldplay, but later found inspiration from Australian singer Matt Corby as well as Jeff Buckley and Hozier.

Woodfine worked in hospitality after school and spent a few years at Manuka in Devonport, before travelling to Berlin and

London to perform with a band.

In recent years, he has taught guitar to people around Devonport, which he still enjoys.

Woodfine doesn't know where his music might take him, but he wants to be able to work consistently in music production, live shows or teaching.

He performed in a Tiny Triumphs Winter Jams mini concert last weekend and is set to release a full te reo Maori album in November.

What's happening?

We are seeing, lots of interest in borrowing, with many buyers thinking low interest rates and tough times may see them snare a bargain buy. But alas, the servicing criteria are still high and a shortage of housing stock for sale is negating many bargains. Maybe wait for next year for those!

Banks are very nervous about the outlook and are storing cash. They are not overly interested in new commercial-property lending right now as that sector faces most uncertainty. The Covid problems in Australia will also be felt here, with a more conservative approach from banks who require all deals to be squeaky clean within policy.

Low interest rates will stay until at least March 2021, and likely beyond, as the world faces deflationary times. (Other than asset prices that is!)

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Strong showing at BIS cross-country



Photo finish... Leila Ison (left) and Tia White go head-to-head down the home straight

A school record was smashed at the Belmont Intermediate (BIS) cross-country event last week.

Around 650 BIS students took part, with Asha Edwards (winner of the Year 7 Girls race) breaking the school record – finishing the course in 12mins 39 secs.

Results: **Year 7 Girls:** 1st Asha Edwards, 2nd Nova Powles, 3rd Jessica Donnelly. **Year 7 Boys:** 1st Harry Shannon, 2nd Alex Clayton, 3rd Harry Brown. **Year 8 Girls:** 1st Piper Lodge, 2nd Brodie Webb, 3rd Isla Cutts. **Year 8 Boys:** 1st Dominic Cook, 2nd Riley Scott, 3rd Darcy Taylor.

The top ten runners in each divisions have qualified for the North Harbour Cross-Country Zone Day on 4 August, where students will compete against other intermediate schools in the Harbour region.

Cuvier House won overall.



Class action... Left: Harry Shannon, winner of the Year 7 Boys race; Middle: Toby Mansell (left) and Iani Paulet Right: Year 7 Girls first-place getter, Asha Edwards

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Politician's 'lighthouse' climb puts spotlight on problems

Trish Deans has scaled new heights in her role as a Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member: she clambered up the Bean Rock playground lighthouse in Windsor Reserve to check out safety concerns raised by the public.

Her expedition left her worried. "I went to climb the ladder and when I got up there, there was nothing to hold onto," she told the board's monthly meeting.

Deans acknowledged the popularity of the \$1 million playground and the work that had gone into it, but she put on record several issues with it.

As well as the safety concerns with equipment and water retention in feature play pools – both matters covered in previous issues of the Devonport Flagstaff – Deans said

she had been contacted by several residents disappointed that the playground design was not disabled-friendly.

"We can't necessarily fix this problem today, but in future and with surrounding boards, we could look at a playground [on the North Shore] that did cover those with disabilities," she said.

Deans, who is a long-time heritage advocate, also pointed to a departure from previous practice locally in the laying of concrete rather than asphalt pathways in the reserve.

Asphalt was preferable from a heritage viewpoint to stay in keeping with other nearby Devonport paths, she said.

She had been told by Auckland Council's community facilities team and council officers that asphalt had not been included as a

design detail, yet on requesting an impact report on the playground design from last year she noted it had specified asphalt be used.

"At some point in the management of the design, this detail has been ignored, overlooked or disregarded. This is a poor outcome."

Deans' report was received by the board. Further checks have been made at the playground.

• Council's playground-installation team attended the site on Monday to reposition the wire mesh on the top level. This work was not remedial, a spokesperson said. It has been planned for months and was delayed awaiting the steel rods to arrive from overseas. "The playground is safe to use and has been safe to use since completion," the spokesperson said.

The initial budget for the project was \$1,271,000. As at 30 June 2020, the total cost of the playground renewal was \$1.3 million.

From page 1

Electric ferries on radar

the information at all, responding instead with a one-page letter.

"While there is an appetite to progress electric ferries within AT, we are in the early stages and still in our "discovery phase", Colin Homan, AT Group Manager Integrated Network Enablement said.

"AT is looking at the feasibility across the current ferry network, exploring the design and funding options.

"Accordingly, the information that we can share at this stage is limited. This is due to the commercial sensitivity, as AT needs to continue negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage," he said.

Electric ferries are being increasingly used overseas. In New Zealand, a \$4 million 19m-long, 135-passenger ferry is under construction to service the Eastbourne – Welington route.

Devonport's cup runneth over

Devonport and Takapuna are receiving the lion's share of public money being spent for the America's Cup on the North Shore.

From a total budget for "summer community activations" of \$795,000, four events in the area would be allocated \$620,000, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board was told by Michael Goudie, relationship manager for Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED).

The biggest is the proposed month-long Waterbourne event based in Takapuna from late February. It centres around four ticketed event days, but will also see family-friendly activities run on the beachfront reserve and in the water daily. Waterbourne will be run by a private operator, with ATEED putting in \$160,000, to help with security and ambulance costs,

fencing and a contribution to entertainment.

Details of the other events, including those in Devonport, are not confirmed yet, with contracts still to be signed.

Board member Toni van Tonder wanted to know what improvements were planned to make the Devonport ferry terminal a more inviting gateway for cup visitors.

Auckland Transport's elected-member relationship manager, Marilyn Nicholls, told her she wasn't sure, but would find out for the next board meeting, adding: "Any updates have to be contractually committed."

Member Trish Deans wondered what impact a decision by Auckland Transport to stop funding for special transport up and down Lake Rd would have. Officials will report back on this and other matters.

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By Rob Drent

It's not often a Flagstaff Notes prediction comes true in time for the next issue. But my suggestion that the old Devonport Borough Council building at 3 Victoria Rd would be up for sale, or in the process of being considered for sale by the end of this year, was prophetic.

Several days after the 17 July issue, the heritage structure was on a list of land and buildings Auckland Council deemed surplus to requirements, deciding it could be sold to help fill a \$750-million post-Covid lockdown budget deficit.

As regular readers would know, the building has had a difficult time of it over the last few years. From its glory days as Devonport's first post office, then as the Devonport Borough Council offices, it became a council service and visitor information centre, and was for many years home of the Devonport Community Board. The Devonport Community Coordinator was based there, as was Devonport's Business Improvement District (BID) manager and a historical display by the Devonport Museum and Historical Society.

However, the building has been vacant for more than two years after it was moved

from social use to a commercial listing in the council's portfolio. Earthquake-strengthening was an issue, and community users were effectively moved out as they could not afford commercial rents or the cost of upgrading the building.

Community groups put an expression of interest through to Panuku (Auckland Council's development arm) but it didn't stack up – financially, most likely.

The Flagstaff understands Panuku was in negotiations with a potential tenant when the disposal decision was made.

The building had a CV of \$3.5 million in 2018, with the cost of a seismic upgrade estimated at \$500,000 to \$600,000. The cost of a full heritage restoration is estimated to be \$2.4 million.

Now, it is likely to be disposed of at a fire-sale price. The cost of the upgrade alone would put many off, and the uncertain post-Covid world is sure to create further jitters.

I can't help feeling an opportunity has been lost here – especially as some creative solutions were put forward. One that should have been considered was the sale of Harmony Hall in Wynyard St (building owned by the Devonport Senior Citizens), with the money used to upgrade 3 Victoria Rd as a centre for a variety of community groups, the senior citizens included.

It's a shame Ken Davis's plan for Clarence St improvements didn't make the final Auckland Council cut for the government's

Innovating Streets for People Fund.

Al Fresco Fridays – pop-up entertainment and food on Friday nights for Milford, Takapuna and Devonport – was put through by the council's planning committee. I would have thought the Davis proposals were more permanent changes that would have provided a platform for the Al Fresco evenings.

Like many, I'm a bit sceptical of the recent council report that Devonport's tree canopy cover increased by 46 ha (16 to 18 per cent) from 2013 to 2018.

A huge number of trees have been cut down since blanket protections were lifted by Auckland Council, and developments and infill have increased. The only mitigating factor could be the high amount of parkland, coastal reserve trees and the Waitemata Golf Course on the peninsula. More reason to add to our park space rather than diminish it.

There's also the gnarly prospect of a mass non-native tree removal from our mountains – a policy of the Tūpuna Maunga Authority to be implemented across the city, but with timing yet to be confirmed.

It's good to see Devonport eateries being well supported post-lockdown. I hope this extends to other businesses over the next few months and into summer. Devonport is a hard trading environment over winter, and our retailers won't have the usual rush of cruise-ship tourists in 2020/21 to fill the increasingly empty coffers.



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For Sale \$1,180,000
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Maria Stevens
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maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz
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Bus needed for 575 Ryman residents and employees

I was interested in your comment (Flagstaff Notes, 17 July) in the Flagstaff (great newspaper by the way), regarding links of transport to Ryman's retirement village on Ngataringa Road, as some of the first residents put a submission in to Auckland Transport (AT) and Auckland Council on various items regarding safety once outside the village and bus transport.

The edited response from the Engagement Manager Customer Care in respect of the bus service was as follows:

"At this stage there are no plans to route any

bus services either along or nearby Ngataringa Rd. There was a route 815 which only operated at peak times so would be of little use to the residents.

"AT is currently operating an on-demand, rideshare service (AT Local), and you can visit our website for full details on how this works. We will continue to monitor this area, particularly with the establishment of the village and any other changes in this area. The potential to add service to this area would be subject to available budget and the prioritisation of this budget across other projects"

Our submission did outline the age of the residents (all over 70 – and many over 90), who

are not conversant with the use of apps on their phone in order to use AT Local. (As an aside, I do and have used the service – but know of no others in the village that do).

For a bus to Devonport or Takapuna, there is a walk of at least 8-15 minutes to/from the Old Lake Road bus stop, which is often beyond some of the residents.

More residents will be arriving in both independent and serviced apartments from October onwards. Ultimately there will be over 450 residents and 125 employees on-site. We hope in time our submission will be readdressed.

Maxilyn Tudman
Ryman Resident

More contact-tracing QR codes needed

I find it very disappointing that most shops/cafes etc in Devonport do not have the Covid-19 QR Poster displayed on their premises.

I have mentioned it to a couple of shop owners, who were not aware that it was important. Those I have talked with have very kindly put the poster up almost immediately. The post office staff thought it was not required at all. I have also mentioned using the app to some friends and family. A general response is that they will start using the app if there is another outbreak – a bit like shutting the gate after the horse has bolted.

We are constantly reminded by Health Minister Chris Hipkins and Ashley Bloomfield about the importance of using this app and not to slide into complacency – Australia being the unfortunate example. I understand some older people may not have an appropriate smartphone or understand how to use the app. However, the more the QR code is displayed, the more it may be used. Come on Devonport businesses – show us you care about our community.

Alan Gibb

Wall clever: let's welcome new businesses

The wall on the corner of Rattray and Victoria Rd is coloured black and white, and features clever design. I fail to see how it's 'lurid' and 'garish', as described in a letter in the last Flagstaff (17 July).

The wall is part of a new business occupying the corner, providing delicious food for local people. With increasing numbers of empty

premises in our main street, a reality check is needed. Let's welcome new businesses, particularly those catering for local people rather than tourists, so they are able to help our village deal with New Zealand's closed border and the end of the government's wage subsidy in September.

Barb Cuthbert

What's happened to Queens Pde boat ramp?

I have just one question for the readers of the Flagstaff (and they are many) – what has happened to the boat ramp at the bottom of Huia St, and used by those who have dinghies in one of the lockers?

Chris Leech

• It appears to have broken off in a storm, but we are checking to see if it will be replaced.

Editor



Harcourts Devonport Tides

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Fun and risk-taking part of healthy development

What has happened to letting children just enjoy play without having to wrap them up in cotton wool? David Thornber's letter (Flagstaff, 17 July) pointed out every sharp corner and abrasive surface that could potentially hurt a child playing on the recently built playground at Windsor Reserve.

I don't doubt that David has the purest of intentions. As a child I was allowed to have fun and experience my surroundings without my mum putting the fear of God in me, about all the potential dangers around me like rough surfaces. I received one broken leg as a child, the result of me getting up on our garage roof along with my brothers who dared me to jump off and I did. My only other injury was a dog bite.

David, you may not want to read what comes next. As a child, I climbed trees, large willow trees close to 100ft-plus tall. We built tree huts. I loved skateboarding so we built ramps, the higher the better. Myself and my friends looked out for the steepest slopes to skate down to allow us to go as fast as possible (caution: not one of us had protective guards or helmets). I'm not even sure they existed then? I played bullrush with all the neighbourhood children, basketball, rugby till it got dark. We had so much fun, I think there wasn't one part of my body growing up where I didn't receive a scrape or a bruise. I had the odd cuts, nothing major. At times, I cried if it really hurt, mostly not. Kids back then were most certainly made of stronger stuff, I believe, compared to today and I believe a lot of that is due to the scaremongering that children are subjected to.

There is a 10-year-old child in our nei-

ghbourhood who is not allowed on a bicycle or skateboard, even with protective gear, as his parents don't want him to get hurt. So he watches his friends having fun. He turns down play dates that could be too dangerous. I feel so incredibly sad for him as I watch him plead to go and play with his friends. Both this boy and his brother cry over the slightest bruise or scratch. They are quick to get the disinfectant out to treat themselves. If they feel hot, they get the thermometer out to check their temperature.

Psychologists say that all the fear and anxiety of the parents is transmitted into the child, who internalises it and learns to be anxious and fearful of anything unknown or out of their comfort zone. This also creates an unclear perception of real risk levels in these children, which can be dangerous. Indeed this kind of overprotection has devastating effects on multiple levels, such as emotional growth, development of healthy identity and sense of self, self-esteem, social interaction, relationships and more.

The examples I gave are not isolated cases, and I've seen many many children just like this.

Please, please let kids have fun. Let them explore and experience life. A sharp corner or rough surface isn't going to kill your child. While it's important to protect our children, as a parent/grandparent teach your child how to look after themselves and what to be aware of; teach them how to be strong, capable, independent individuals, then let them figure out the rest themselves from their own experiences. That's when they learn the most.

But please don't take the fun out of their lives.

Sue O'Keeffe

Board wants locals heard on liquor bans

Community calls for local-liquor bans should be given more weight, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board says.

The subject arose when the board was asked for feedback on a report from Auckland Council's regulatory committee. The report outlined how it proposed to amend the Alcohol Control Bylaw to give itself the ongoing ability to impose temporary liquor bans at four major venues: Mt Smart, Eden Park, Auckland Domain and Western Springs.

Board deputy chair George Wood said he was concerned the council was being empowered "yet they don't support liquor bans from local communities".

After questions on the report and around "permanent temporary" bans, the board unanimously passed an amendment by Wood.

Instead of merely receiving the report, clauses were added noting the temporary bans and requesting council officers give liquor-ban requests in other parts of Auckland similar positive support to enable communities to have their requests for bans satisfied.

The draft by-law will be finalised after feedback from local boards.

It will then go through a public consultation process in October, with a view to be enacted by April 2021.



B L U E F I N

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Contact Shaun at
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or 021800690



OUT & ABOUT

Maria Teape Community Coordinator

445 9533 | maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

ST LEO'S CAR BOOT & GARAGE SALE

Sunday 2 August, 10am-12.30pm
St Leo's School grounds

Quality household goods, clothing, toys and books for sale! Plus coffee cart, bake stall and BBQ to keep tummies full. Donations of clean, second-hand goods can be delivered to the school office by 31/7/20 or at only \$20 per car boot or table you can secure your spot by emailing stleosfundraiser@gmail.com (local, small or home businesses, artists and crafty creators or just those who need a mighty good clean-out of their lives all welcome!)

RESTORING TAKARUNGA HAURAKI NETWORK MEETING

Wednesday 12 August, 7pm
The Barracks, Fort Takapuna Reserve,
170 Vauxhall Rd, Narrow Neck

Find out more about what is happening with local ecological restoration efforts and how you can get involved. **For more information contact Lance:** pestfreedevonport@gmail.com

DEVONPORT COMMUNITY NETWORK MEETING

Thursday 13 August, 10am-12pm
Devonport Yacht Club, 25 King Edward Pde

This quarterly meeting is about promoting networking among residents and local community groups. The session commences with morning tea and a chance to network informally then we will hear from guest speakers on topical local matters. **For more information contact Maria** ph: 445 9533 or email: maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

WINTER FUN PRESCHOOL PLAY

Fridays, 24 July-30 October
(including school holidays), 9:30am-11:00am
The Rose Centre, School Rd, Belmont

Toddler time to play with big toys, be active and make new friends. Sessions are casual/free entry, caregiver supervision required. **For more info, visit** www.devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

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

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Devonport-Takapuna Local Board
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Thinking pink delivers again



Brim-brim... (from left) Gale Wieland, Gisa Ellis and Helen Michell, who was third in the pink-hat challenge



Inflated idea... Julia Mak (left) was second in the hat challenge. Right: Event coordinator Lynda Betts (left), Helen Michell and hat-challenge winner Jenny Newton.

for breast-cancer charity



The Pink Ribbon Breakfast held at Correlli's Cafe in Devonport last week raised \$3000 for the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.

Nearly 50 women attended the 12th annual breakfast, an event organised by Lynda Betts.

"We are not only donating to an important cause, but we are raising awareness about breast cancer and women's health," said Betts.

"This is a great time for people to get together and encourage each other to get themselves checked."

The women arrived dressed in pink, and competed in a pink-hat challenge, which was won by Jenny Newton, with Julia Mak and Helen Michell placed second and third.

A silent auction was also organised, with gifts donated by local businesses including Correlli's Café, Devonport Flowers, Cosi Fan Tutte, Glengarry, Anna Stretton, Devonport Chocolates, Places and Graces, Yarntons, Blue Illusion, Cushla's Village Fabrics, Toti, Fitzgerald Taylor, Jess' Underground Kitchen, The Green Planet, Mixt, Miller Road and Marqueeze.

The event raised \$3252, compared with \$3520 last year.

Correlli's, which donates 50 per cent of every breakfast to Pink Ribbon, made an additional \$500 donation to the Breast Cancer Foundation.

Howdy... Jackie Mark (left) and Jane Hastings went for a cowgirl look. Below: Hats off to the winner... (from left) Donna Sheridan, Jo Iremonger and Jenny Newton, in her challenge-winning hat.



'Movie Man' recreates the golden days of cinema

Former projectionist Murray Thompson has a fully equipped mini cinema in his Devonport villa. He tells Helen Vause about his lifelong passion for old-style movie houses.



Reel experience... Murray Thompson's film club members get to enjoy all sorts of movie genres, and plenty of classic releases

On a November evening in 2015, a little group of movie buffs settled into their comfortable red-plush seats. Over the sound system, a soundtrack began. Velour curtains twitched, the lights went down and the first screening of many began in timeless style.

Outside, Guy Fawkes celebrations were beginning, but the lucky few enjoying opening night at Murray Thompson's tiny

'State' cinema in his Devonport villa were oblivious as they enjoyed the frolics of Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis and Jack Lemon in the Hollywood classic *Some like it Hot*.

Their experience was what many of Thompson's generation would remember from Auckland cinemas in their heyday – when the spectacle of the magical buildings and the presentation was half the fun of going to the movies. But here there were just a dozen seats.

For long-time cinema projectionist Thompson, that evening was a reveal of a dream he'd been nurturing for years: having his own theatre with a fabulous standard of presentation to be enjoyed by select groups who would appreciate it all like he did.

Five years on, there have been many evenings just as he envisaged, as gatherings with those who joined his film club have grown.

"Quite simply, I have the best of everything here," Thompson says, with obvious pride.

He talks to the Flagstaff in the elegant

living room that leads to his theatre room, past lights and authentic cinema touches. "I'd always wanted my own cinema but it wasn't easy to make it happen," he says.

The charm of movie houses touched Thompson as a toddler in Paeroa, when his mother began wheeling him down to the Regent in the early 50s.

The little boy loved the Saturday matinees, though for him it wasn't so much about the movie as the spectacle of it all – waterfall curtains rising and lowering, music, lighting, changing colours, and people standing up for *God Save the Queen*.

When his family moved north to Devonport, the five-year-old was a regular at The Vic and the big old State Theatre, which was in its heyday on the other side of Victoria Rd.

Having an eye for fine buildings and the details that make them what they are, ran in the family. Thompson's great-grandfather Edward Bartley was a prominent architect, who made his mark with handsome buildings on both sides of the harbour and built a big home in Devonport.

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In the late 50s, Thompson was often taken by ferry to the many cinemas that thrived in and around Queen St. He was enchanted by it all.

The family left Devonport when his father bought a butcher's shop in Kelston, and it was decades before he returned.

He grew up going to matinees at the somewhat faded Delta Theatre in New Lynn, the "flea house" for local kids who would flock in on Saturdays.

When the screams and excitement reached fever pitch at cartoon time, Thompson can remember the manager halting the screening to tell the kids to cut the noise. The worst offenders would often be tossed out. In all, a great afternoon's entertainment at the cinema.

He couldn't get enough of it. At home, he had a puppet theatre. Then he turned the family garage into a cinema that, as an eight-year-old, he operated with an 8mm projector, with lights and an overture and curtains, of course. Footage of his mother smoking a cigarette provided the advertising segment in his carefully orchestrated build-up to the main film.

Determined he would one day make his career as a projectionist, in his early teens Thompson had a meeting with the staff at the Cameo Theatre in New Lynn. He was 14 when he started changing reels in the projection room, staying until he was 16 and old enough to seek a job as a projectionist.

He took an apprenticeship at Kerridge Odeon's St James theatre, which was considered the best place to learn his craft.

It was quite a step up. The St James seated more than 2000 people and had gleaming floors, uniformed usherettes, black-suited doormen with bow ties, and resident cats to keep any mice away.

Reels had to be changed several times during a screening, and assistant projectionist Thompson learned the job

from an ageing professional who had brought the first 'talkie' to life in Auckland decades earlier.

After the evening session, the young apprentice caught the late bus home to New Lynn.

With his projectionist's licence secured at 18, Thompson was ready to move on. In the course of his career, he moved around the projection rooms of the city – working in cinemas such as the Regent, the Odeon and the Embassy.

"It was my dream job and I just loved being part of those cinemas and all their wonderful stories."

At first it was a very private cinema for Thompson and friends, but he was soon persuaded to share it with others and his film club took shape.

These days, there are more than 100 members and regular screenings.

Thompson screens all genres, with plenty of classics along with the new titles he thinks will appeal.

With more than 2000 movies on offer, he isn't lost for choice.

"But I never run anything that's currently screening elsewhere. I have no intention of stepping on anyone's toes," he says.

"I am all about presentation. What I

“What I wanted to create was that old cinema experience. There's nothing else like it.”

But times changed in the cinema world, and life took Thompson to Sydney for more than a decade.

There, his work was still creative and he turned his hand to design and interiors. But the idea of having his own cinema one day stayed with him.

"At one stage, I looked at getting the old Crystal Palace in Mt Eden and doing that up. But it would have cost a fortune," he recalls. "I wouldn't have wanted anything less than fabulous."

Maybe there could be a cinema of his own, still fabulous, just smaller-scale and right in his own backyard.

When that concept fired his imagination, Thompson and his partner Domenico found a villa in Devonport with a back garden that was perfect for their unique addition.

wanted to create was that old cinema experience. There's nothing else like it."

Those very comfy seats in his 'State' came from France; the sound, lighting and projection systems – and the curved screen – are top notch. Last year, twinkling lights on the ceiling were added.

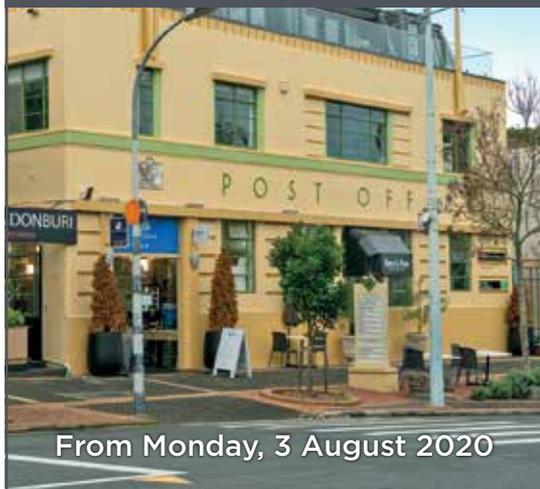
And Thompson found the little exit signs on Trade Me that once glowed in the namesake theatre, and restored them.

"When we first came here we didn't know a soul. Well, that has certainly changed. So many of the people we have welcomed through the door have become real friends to us now.

"I never did this as a job. It is my passion and it has been really wonderful to invite people in to share it.

"Now everyone around here knows me as the Movie Man."

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Lockdown returns long-lost heirloom

Confined to her Devonport lockdown bubble of one with the dog, Hilary Condon received a surprising message from the outside world.

A fellow member of the genealogy website ancestry.com contacted her during a month of little human interaction, asking whether she had any connection to the UK city of Portsmouth or the city's Hulsea College.

The man had spotted a small sports trophy on Ebay, engraved with H. Condon, and wondered if it was hers.

Condon instantly suspected the 1923 school tennis cup was her father's. Hubert Condon had won numerous sports trophies at school – she remembered them lining a dining-room sideboard while growing up in Nairobi, Kenya, and later filling two kitchen shelves in Ipswich, where the family had relocated in the UK.

Condon specifically recalled the day her mother got rid of the cups, after her parents separated when she was 12 years old.

"I came home from school and the cups were not in the kitchen glass cupboard any more.

"I remember seeing the empty space and asking my mother about it. She said she got rid of them because they were taking up too much space," she says.

When combing through a family photo album, Condon eventually found proof the small brass cup advertised online was indeed a family heirloom.

"I found a photo of my father's mother with a table full of trophies, including the little tennis cup."

For UK£5 the heirloom was hers, but international postage added another NZ\$80.

It was all worth it. Condon, living on her own after long-time partner Roger Giles died just before lockdown, enjoyed the newfound connections back to her home country and family that came with the cup.

"The man from Portsmouth and I ended up emailing quite a bit, as he liked to collect history of his hometown. We looked at wartime photos and he tried to find one of my father's grandparents' tailor's shop in the centre of town.

"I had the address, but from Dad's photos, it looked like the building had been bombed during the war.

"I also had photos of the interior of Hulsea



Cup holder... Hilary Condon with her father's tennis cup and a photo of him playing the double bass

College, which the Portsmouth man had never seen and was able to add to his collection."

Condon also communicated with the trophy's seller, who had found the cup when his family cleaned out a garden shed in Essex just before the UK lockdown.

"His father-in-law owned a construction business during the 1960s and often brought salvaged items home when digging up a site. His mother-in-law had polished the cup for 40 years before putting it in the shed," Condon says.

Condon reckons she pieced the puzzle of the cup's whereabouts together even further. "I thought of how my mother would have gone about getting rid of all those cups.

"She only had a bike or the bus to get around. But there was a rag-and-bone man who came

around every so often with a horse and cart. I think it is very likely that she gave the cups to him, because that would have been the easiest. Where we lived in Suffolk was not far from the county of Essex, where the cup was found," she says.

Hubert Condon left no athletic legacy with his daughter or her sons. Condon says neither she nor they are at all sporty.

But his musical genes appear to have been handed on. "He played double bass in the Nairobi Philharmonic orchestra and in dance bands with his brothers, continuing to play on weekends when we moved to England," she says.

Condon played piano as a child. In 1967, after she and her parents (who had reunited) emigrated to New Zealand, she fell in love with Auckland's folk music scene and started to sing and play the flute and dulcimer as well.

Eldest son Kerrin Worsfold is very musical, too.

Helping to run the Auckland Folk Festival, Condon met Roger Giles when he was the festival's president and she the secretary.

When she moved to Devonport, she helped him run the Devonport Folk Club as secretary/treasurer, selling concert tickets at the door, where Giles lovingly referred to her as the club's bouncer.

- A celebration for Roger Giles's life is being held at the Devonport Yacht Club on 15 August, starting at 7pm. Music will no doubt be a prominent part of it.

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Oh la la! Tennis club marks Bastille Day in style



Beret set... (from left) Sandra McLachlan, Janine Jones and Sally Burge. Below: (from left) Wendy Whitfield, Anita Stewart, Arlene Meder and Lisa McCloskey.

Ngataringa Tennis Club members celebrated Bastille Day last week, dressing to impress with French berets and other Gallic garb.

A few sets of mixed doubles were planned, but the rain intervened, so the players gathered upstairs in the club house for French snacks

and treats instead.

Miam Miam, a local food business on the Shore, catered the event and made traditional French sausages for the club to enjoy. Funds were raised for the club.

The club has a French coach, Lucien Lemay,

and Belgian head coach, Gilles deGouy.

The club's private tennis coaching recently began for term 3, and will run for the next nine weeks. Players of all ages are welcome, with coaching sessions available from beginner to advanced levels.





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Filled with options to carry it into an exciting future this 1920's bungalow sits on a substantial 1037m² site with panoramic views across Ngataranga Bay on the north and then west to the harbour's opening. A potter's studio and boatshed are surprise additions. Walk to Ferry.

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This charming early 1900's weatherboard home is positioned at the end of a cul de sac just off Devonport's prime waterfront. On a freehold site of 304m² this is a unique property prized for both its location and views. Bring your vision, this is affordable Devonport and it will be sold!

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Perhaps you're feeling the urge to live in a different style home and experience an alternative vibe in Devonport. Well here is a 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home overlooking Ngataranga Bay and elevated for sun on a low maintenance section and a single garage with internal access.

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DEVONPORT 3/9 PATUONE AVENUE

GREAT LITTLE STARTER IN CENTRAL DEVONPORT
With two double bedrooms, internal access from a single garage, and fully encased for privacy this townhouse has ample opportunity to develop and add value to. Easy stroll to the Village and Waterfront.

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OPEN HOME



OPEN HOME

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Island benefits from Devonport playground

Children in Vanuatu are enjoying playing on reassembled swings and slides sent over from Devonport.

Thanks to Rotary, the old equipment replaced at Windsor Reserve by the \$1 million Bean Rock playground was saved from being dumped. It was shipped to the island of Espiritu Santo, where an official playground opening ceremony was held this month.

Prior to Covid-19, Rotarians and interested Devonport residents had planned to travel to the islands in April or May to assemble the gear.

Devonport branch member Gavin Busch said this had not been possible, however Santo Rotarians had swung into action. In a week-and-a-half, they rebuilt the playground and completed landscaping. It now sits in a park in the island's main town of Luganville. Previously the only play equipment was a solitary swing.

"This adds a lot to the experience for the kids," said Busch.

He acknowledged support from Auckland Council, Ryman Healthcare, Oceanbridge Shipping, MSC Consulting and Rotary District Grants with enabling the Devonport Rotary Club project to be completed.

St Leo's Catholic School also donated several boxes of books to the children on Santo, which were sent over in the container with the playground equipment.

"This has been a marvellous project high-



lighting how, through Rotary, local initiatives can impact positively on the lives of those overseas," said Busch.

The playground "may well have ended up in the rubbish dump, yet will now be enjoyed for many years ahead by the children on Santo."

Recycling in action... from Devonport to Vanuatu – the old Windsor Reserve playground still has a few more years' use left

Have your say on the Takapuna town square design

Takapuna's new town square will be a vibrant place where the community can come together to meet and relax.

We're seeking your views to confirm that the design of the town square includes the things that matter most to you.

Submissions must be received by 11.55pm, Friday 14 August.

For more information, a copy of the supporting materials and to give your feedback, go to akhaveyoursay.co.nz



Old landline call-up

Hundreds of Devonport residents will need to make the call in the months ahead about replacing old landline phone connections.

Spark is phasing out its copper phone lines. Current users will need to upgrade phones that connect to the network by wireless or by fibre, as many residents already do.

Devonport and Miramar in Wellington will be trial areas for replacing the remaining old technology nationwide, with 1000 customers affected across the two suburbs.

In September, residents on copper connections will be sent information about their options. If customers opt to stay with Spark, they have until 18 December to make a change. A customer support team will be available to talk to residents, many of whom might be older, to help them understand the issues.

Spark customer director Grant McBeath said: "The reality is that the old network of switches that currently underpins voice calling is end-of-life. Its components have not been manufactured for 17 years, and the

people with the skills needed to maintain this technology are also getting harder to find."

Spark said most customers would need only a simple change and would pay the same or less for a new service. Those switching to wireless would be sent a new modem and two new wireless handsets, free of charge.

Opting for fibre would depend on its availability to their property. If available, installation and a new handset would be provided. Phone numbers would not need to change.

As well as phone lines, customers who have broadband delivered over copper services through systems associated with these old switches will also need to make changes. Spark is withdrawing all of its copper-based broadband in Devonport.

In 2017, more than one million New Zealand home phones used switches connecting into copper lines. Since then, numbers had fallen to 400,000 and were dropping off at the rate of 10,000 a month, said McBeath.

Visitor-info caravan set to arrive before summer

A caravan to replace the Devonport visitor-information outlet in The Arcade should be ready for summer.

Discussions between Devonport Rotary and the Devonport Business Association (DBA) about shifting the information centre to a more prominent position began about two years ago.

A purpose-designed caravan on Devonport Wharf was deemed the best solution. Auckland Transport agreed to provide space on the wharf.

Roy Dykes of Devonport Rotary said the DBA was awarded Lotto funds, and Rotary contributed money from its Fine Homes Tour.

A caravan interior was designed (with input from the visitor-centre volunteers) and an agreement signed with a caravan rebuilder and fitter in Whakatane to purchase and upgrade a suitable caravan.

The delivery date is October or November, in time for the next summer tourist season, he said.

Cemetery gate fixed but fence needs work

Repairs to the O'Neill's Point cemetery gate on Bayswater Rd have been finished, but there have been repeated calls for the cemetery's picket fence to be fixed.

Deputy chair of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board, George Wood, told the board meeting last week that the fence was in poor repair, and rotten in parts.

The historic lychgate was damaged by a contractor and left propped up for weeks, stopping access to tend graves, which raised fears among cemetery preservationists that it might be kept shut during daylight hours as well as overnight.

Auckland Council told the Flagstaff the gate would remain open. It earlier said the contractor would be billed for the repairs.

Most local businesses fail to display Covid app

Only one quarter of Devonport's businesses have Covid-19 tracer codes on display.

Of around 100 businesses in the village, only 25 have Covid-19 QR codes displayed on their windows or counters, the Devonport Flagstaff found in a survey last week.

The NZ Covid Tracer is a Ministry of Health app that allows people to create a

digital log of places they have visited by scanning official QR codes. These codes are meant to be displayed in shop windows or near counters.

The app could help quickly identify and isolate anyone who may have been exposed to Covid-19 if there is a further outbreak in New Zealand.

Devonport
Rotary
Club



Now welcoming new members!

After a fantastic year, this month current club president Paul Treacher handed over the reigns to Ian Cunliffe, during the annual changeover dinner at Platter.

The past 12 months was a busy period, with club members enjoying 39 meetings held either at Waitemata Golf Club, local restaurants or via Zoom.

With your help, Devonport Rotary raised over \$77,000, with an exceptional \$66,000 coming from the Fine Homes Tour alone.

From this funds were allocated to the following:

- Dementia Auckland \$15,000
- Tanna Water project (Vanuatu) \$5,000
- Playground to Vanuatu \$1,400
- New Marquee and repairs \$6,000
- Devonport Community Centre \$3,300
- Humanity NZ (Owen Pomana) \$2,100
- Vanuatu Cyclone Appeal \$1,800
- Age Concern – \$500
- UN Youth North American Leadership Tour – \$500
- RI Science Summer School – 3 TGS students \$2,700
- UN Youth NZ Development Tour – \$1,000
- TGS Robotics Club – \$1,000
- Model UN Assembly – 3 Teams \$450
- RI Foundation – Annual Giving \$4,200 and Polio Plus \$1,700
- Seniors' Christmas Dinner \$1,800

Devonport Rotary touches many people within the community and this is only possible with your help. We thank you and look forward to your ongoing support over the coming 12 months.

This month's column was sponsored by



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Hunter tracks big bro's footsteps



Family affair... Takapuna Grammar 1st XV fullback Hunter Rice with his father Dean after a recent match

When Takapuna Grammar (TGS) 1st XV fullback Hunter Rice, 15, received his traditional rugby cap for playing 15 games, it held a particular significance for him and his family.

Hunter's older brother Jackson, 18, who also won a 1st XV cap at the school, saw his time in the team ended by serious illness in 2018.

Hospitalised with blood poisoning, Jackson was allowed out of hospital in a wheelchair to support the team in that year's final, when TGS drew 18-all with Westlake Boys High School to share in the North Harbour 1st XV title.

Hunter, who was a reserve in that year's team, remembers well how his brother was unable to continue pursuing his passion for rugby.

"Achieving my cap is not something I want to boast about. For me, it's really cool because I've been able to pick up where my brother left off," he says.

Sharing a love for rugby with his brother has always been a huge motivation for Hunter.

Jackson, who finished school last year, has recovered from his illness, and Hunter is not far behind matching his brother's run in the 1st XV.

Hunter first made the team when he was in Year 10. Director of rugby and 1st XV coach Jason Ross says he "works hard so there is a lot of potential for him".

He has played rugby for nine years and been a North Harbour representative.

Earlier this year, Hunter was selected for the national under-16 boys touch team and was set to represent New Zealand at a Trans-Tasman touch competition on the Gold Coast in September, but the competition was cancelled due to Covid-19.

"I was really looking forward to the touch competition but I can keep trying for next year," he says.

Lockdown was tough, he adds. "I felt a little bit lost without sport, so its been really good to start up again."

Last Saturday Takapuna Grammar lost a home match to Westlake Boys High School by 22-8. Westlake tops the table with four wins from four.

Next Saturday TGS plays at home against Massey High School.

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Belmont Park tennis club champs 2020

Around 90 competitors played 189 matches in the Belmont Park tennis club champs that were held after Covid-19 lockdown.

Prizewinners were: Women's Doubles Championship (Coote Rosebowl): Jacqui Anderson and Cath Hinds, R/U Suzy Nola and Toni McKenty; Women's Championship Doubles Plate: Debs Lowther and Lucy Macnaught, R/U Sandra Lewis and Inge Wisselink; Women's Intermediate Doubles: Helen Congdon and Maree Harvey, R/U Jodine Nielsen and Kelly Atkins. Women's Intermediate Doubles Plate: Juliet Dewes and Robina Morrison, R/U Sandra Lewis and Mary Harper.

Men's Doubles Winners (Denny Green Rosebowl): Luke Bodle and Sam Brodie, R/U Adam MacFarlane and Jake Phillips. Men's Championship Doubles Plate TBD.

Ladies' Singles Championship (Brookbanks Cup): Jacqui Anderson, R/U Vanesa Cutfield; Women's Singles Plate: Lucy Macnaught, R/U Jill Stoker; Intermediate Women's Singles: Jodine Nielsen, R/U Michelle Robson; Intermediate Women's Singles Plate: Maree Harvey, R/U Julia Crosfield.

Men's Singles Championship (Belmont Cup): Luke Bodle, R/U Campbell Burrows; Men's Championship Singles Plate: Aaron Hewitt, R/U Hayden Adams; Men's Championship Singles Consolation: David Blake, R/U Alex Duranski; Men's Intermediate Singles: David Blake, R/U Jake Phillips; Men's Intermediate Singles Plate: Blair Harden, R/U Konrad Welte; Men's Intermediate Singles Consolation: Rob Snow, R/U Paul Bell.

Mixed Doubles Championship (Gordon Cloud Memorial) Graeme Norman and Jacqui Anderson, R/U Stuart Clark and Toni McKenty; Mixed Doubles Consolation: Brendon Reid and Cath Hinds, R/U David Blake and Lucy Macnaught; Mixed Doubles Plate: Hiram Ryan and Suzy Nola, R/U Des Smith and Juliet Dewes.



Belmont Park women's doubles finalists... (from left) runners-up Suzy Nola and Toni McKenty, and winners Cath Hinds and Jacqui Anderson

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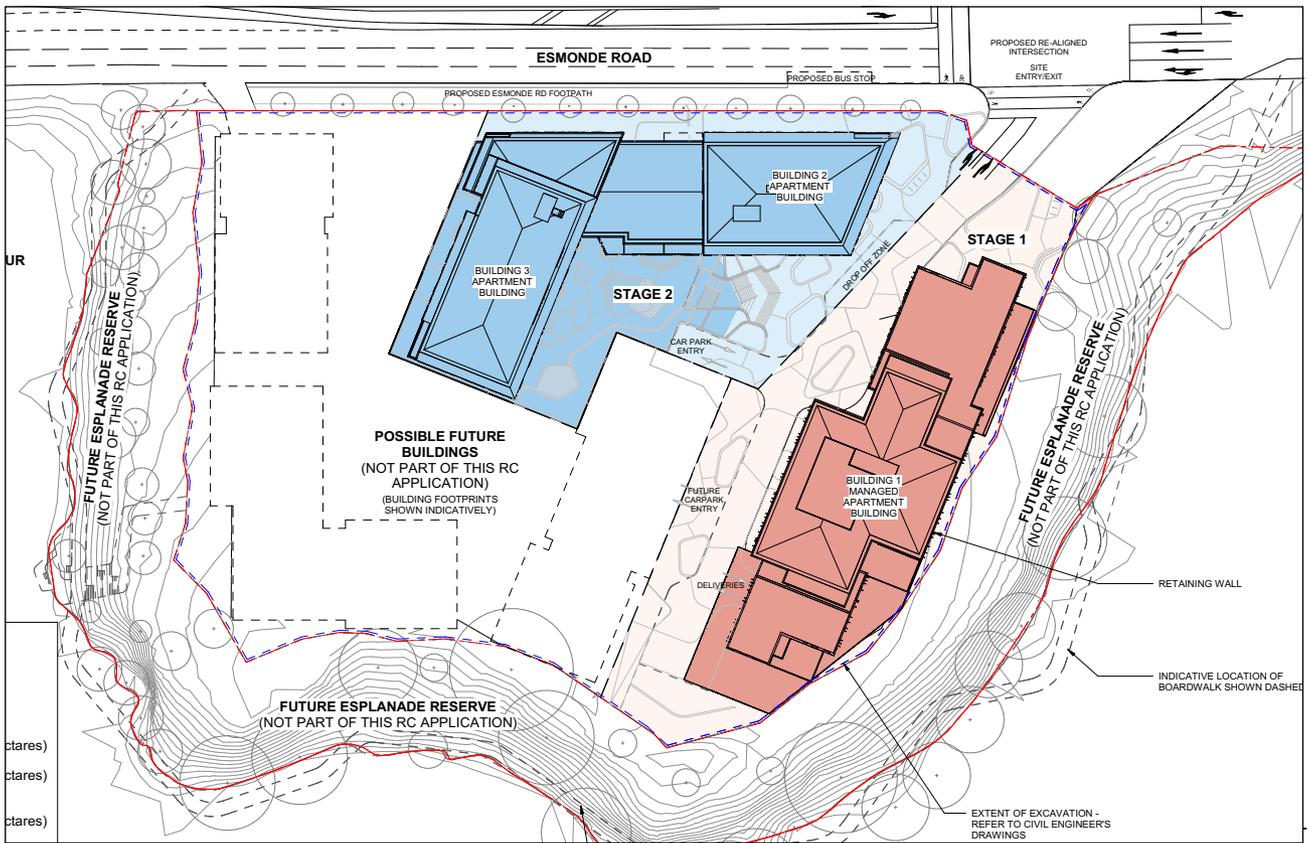
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Takapuna

Massive apartment complex planned for Esmonde Rd



Application in... A plan showing the development’s first two stages

A major apartment development rising to seven storeys is planned to replace the Harbourside Church on Esmonde Rd.

Four blocks of varying heights are proposed, with plans for these to incorporate a cafe and other facilities open to the public.

An application has been lodged by Kingstone Properties Ltd for two of an envisaged three stages of development on the property at 48 Esmonde Rd.

The 2.1ha waterfront site sold for \$40 million last year.

The Stage 1 block on the eastern edge of the site would be run as managed hotel-style accommodation.

Stage 2 groups together three buildings of mostly studio and one-bedroom apartments aimed at first-home buyers. These linked buildings would be grouped around a communal central zone, with the aim of creating a “village character”.

The bottom two levels of the block would

be accessible to residents, visitors and the public. Facilities envisaged included a cafe, gymnasium and childcare.

The church would be removed first and then earthworks to create building platforms would be undertaken, the proposal to Auckland Council said.

Access to the site would be from the existing controlled traffic intersection, although some upgrades to this were anticipated.

The traffic entrance layout would need modifications before accommodation was opened, the application says.

Planners will review the application before a decision is made.

The application exceeds height restrictions in the zone. The church rises to around three storeys; much of the new development will be more than twice this height.

The developers submitted that the design, by architectural firm Jasmax, took into ac-

count how it might sympathetically fit into the area: “The distribution of the buildings into various bulk, height, form and architectural appearance was an attempt to offer a group of buildings in village form instead of two large buildings.”

Wall claddings would be mixed metal and draw on a natural palette including green, brown and black.

Site could link with paths and cycleways

Public paths and cycleways around the apartment-complex site could one day connect south via boardwalks to the Francis St cycleway and also out to Esmonde Rd and onto the planned Sea Path towards the Harbour Bridge.

A proposed accessway to the site

creates a thoroughfare in the form of a public easement, which could enable the connections.

A lit landscaped road-level public plaza with seating could act as a transitional area between the road and communal open space.



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‘Affordable’ apartments included in plans

Views from Takapuna and Hauraki across the harbour to the city are set to be transformed by the multi-level property development proposed for Esmonde Rd.

The complex itself will have several penthouses and some apartments with sweeping water views to the city, although most of the 270 units are oriented in other directions to benefit from the sun.

Details of the buildings, and their visual impact as seen from nearby suburban streets, formed part of Kingstone Property’s planning consent application.

Extensive planting of coastal shrubs was proposed, and the site would be ringed with a public walkway and a cycleway, it said.

The value of a strip of pohutukawa along the street frontage of the site and other trees was recognised for screening part of the existing church building.

“Buffering vegetation would also affect public perceptions of the proposed development,” said a visual-and-amenity-effects assessment that formed part of the developer’s submission to Auckland Council.

Under Stage 1 of the proposal, a managed visitor-accommodation block would rise over seven floors. All units would face east or west.

The internal configuration is not finalised, but proposed for now are 164 studios, 18 one-bedroom apartments and five penthouses.

Accommodation would take 6800sq m of a total floor area of 10,877sq m. The ground



Village character... An artist’s impression of buildings planned for the Harbourside Church site on Esmonde Rd

floor would be a common area for check-in and support services. The first floor would include a restaurant. Half of the top floor would be set aside as a roof garden.

Under Stage 2, three interconnected buildings in the middle of the site would surround a central courtyard. The central block would be four storeys high, the western block seven and the eastern six. These would provide some 86 apartments, with final numbers to be confirmed.

The majority were said to be in the ‘af-

fordable’ category, with 37 one-bedroom, 32 two-bedroom and 17 three-bedroom apartments. Below the apartments would be community facilities, including a cafe and fitness centre, a business centre, healthcare and childcare spaces, a convenience store and bike and car parking.

Eighty covered car parks will be provided for both stages of the development. Most of these will be in a three-tier vertical stack parking system.



Have your say on the future of Devonport-Takapuna

20-PRO-2052_NO.1

Our local board has come up with a three-year plan outlining the key initiatives we want to focus on to help our communities thrive and support the recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

Now we need your help to check if we’ve got it right.

So love local and get vocal about your community by having your say. Submissions must be received by **4pm, Thursday 13 August.**

For more information, a copy of the draft Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Plan 2020 and to provide your feedback go to akhaveyoursay.co.nz/lovelocal

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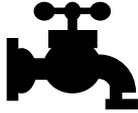
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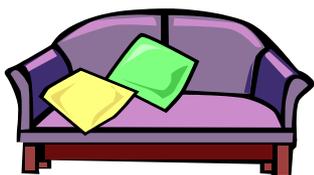
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Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



Grammar

JUL 31, 2020

Open Day

At Takapuna Grammar School's recent Open Day, the hall was packed with prospective students and parents looking to get a glimpse of life at the school.

The tours started with a welcome by the Head Girl, Catherine Fairbairn, and addresses from Principal Mary Nixon, Year 9 student Saskia Nyhoff, and Head Boy Jake Avram, along with a musical performance by the TGS Chorale. Families were then taken on individual tours by Year 13 and Year 12 guides, visiting the technology block, the science classrooms, and the newly opened main block to gain a sense of the school and all the resources that Takapuna Grammar has to offer.

Each classroom was set up by members of a different department within the school, to show what each subject was about and the sorts of projects and inquiries students would undertake during their study. Booths were also set up for the various support systems within the school, including the accelerate and learning support systems.

Parents were able to ask questions and chat to teachers, and students were engaged with a range of fun activities and puzzles set up across the school. Many left smiling and excited about the prospect of school next year and all the opportunities that will be available to them at Takapuna Grammar.

Deputy Head Boy Will Dalzell commented:

"It was incredibly rewarding to see so many students at the evening and a privilege to show them around our wonderful school."

For more information on how to enrol, visit the Enrolments page on the TGS website. Enrolment enquiries can also be directed to the Enrolment Administrator on +64 (0)9 489 4167 ext 9221 or by email to enrolments@tgs.school.nz.

It was a pleasure to see so many from the community at this incredible event.

BY AISLIN WELLS



World Vision Bake Sale



Ample with the spirit of giving, TGS students put together a charity bake sale to donate to World Vision's cause on supporting vulnerable communities in Malawi stricken by the adverse effects of climate change.

The students brought in a variety of delicacies, ranging from caramel slices to cakes, including vegan options. Pearl Nicholson, a Year 10 participant and organiser states: "Baking for World Vision was a valuable experience, as it showed me how I could contribute to an important cause with something as small as making cookies." It was heart-warming to see how many students and teachers were eager to donate, which helped us raise over \$200.

BY LAIBA BATOOL

20 years ago from the Flagstaff files

- A proposal to rip down a heritage-listed Cheltenham house at 10 Rata Rd will go to a public hearing.
- Devonport RSA women's division members Molly Eagles, Doreen Lobb and Joyce Scott knit more than 100 woolly hats for chemotherapy patients around Auckland.
- Local fire chief Ron Henderson finds himself in hot water after speaking out about substandard fire appliances at the Devonport station. Henderson made the comments at a Devonport Community Board meeting. Fire chiefs launched disciplinary action against him.
- Houses on the Tamaki land, which prevent public access to part of the reserve, are set to be removed after tenants are given notice.
- Work on the rust-ravaged exterior of the Devonport Wharf is underway. Repairs are being made to railings, the roof and the south side of the building. The work was ordered by North Shore City Council to bring the building up to safety standards.
- A Korean family is threatened at gunpoint and robbed of \$4400 at their Hauraki Corner home.
- The Navy fires a 21-gun salute to mark the Queen Mother's 100th birthday.
- A police blitz on the Victoria Rd/Calliope Rd corner nabs 12 motorists driving through the stop sign, in the space of just 30 minutes.
- The Devonport Community Board plans to apply for Crown money from the 1937 Narrow Neck Endowment Fund to save Torpedo Bay Wharf, which was built in 1899, but has fallen into disrepair.
- Stanley Bay Bowling Club holds a mid-winter Christmas party, attended by 75 club members and supporters.
- North Shore B rugby team wins the North Harbour championship with a try in the dying minutes to beat East Coast Bays B 15-13.
- Former All Black Brad Johnstone, a 44-



Flagstaff interview subject... Bob Pope

- game All Black veteran, will take on his former team as the coach of Italy.
- Navy Chief Petty Officer Kevin Heveldt wins a \$29,000 car from Westpac, but al-
- most misses out on collecting it as he was overseas on a posting.
- Lifelong Devonport resident Bob Pope is the Flagstaff interview subject.

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THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

LOCAL TAKES COMMAND OF HMNZS AOTEAROA

It will be Captain Rooke's sixth Commanding Officer role in his nearly 30 years of service. He joined the Navy in 1991, seeking a hands-on, practical job.

He says: "There was the appeal of doing a job that represented your country, and it was something that wasn't sitting in an office. And to be honest, the recruiter convinced me the Navy was a great option for me – he was spot on!"

Captain Rooke has a hefty nautical pedigree. He is descended from Admiral Sir George Rooke, who captured Gibraltar for the British Empire.

"One of my uncles served on HMNZS Gambia during the war and post-war served on merchant ships for decades. My dad's brothers were all in the Navy or Merchant Navy."

A qualified navigator, he was awarded a New Zealand Order of Merit for his work as a boarding officer in a frigate in the Arabian Gulf. His last command was HMNZS Canterbury, responding to three major humanitarian and disaster-relief operations in Vanuatu, Fiji and Kaikōura.



The command of the Royal New Zealand Navy's newest vessel, HMNZS Aotearoa, falls to Devonport resident Captain Simon Rooke

Following the commissioning of operations, aviation, and Antarctic Aotearoa on 29 July, four big tasks lie ahead. "Replenishment at sea, cargo resupply. At the beginning of 2022, we'll be in Antarctica. That will be amazing."

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

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Covid-interrupted cricketers honoured

It may be the off season, but cricket is very much on the minds of the first Takapuna Grammar (TGS) team to win the Auckland Premier Cricket Championship in the school's 93-year history. The girls 1st XI side, which was declared the winner several months ago after a Covid-19 interrupted season, was recognised in a ceremony at the school last week.

With winning comes the right to represent the Auckland region at the national cricket tournament. At a special breakfast, principal Mary Nixon presented the Gillette Venus Cup to team captain Anna Browning. Nixon spoke of her pride in the team and the legacy they have created for future students to aspire to.

The team hopes the national tournament, where the six regional winners compete, will be held in December. But this has yet to be confirmed by New Zealand Cricket.

Coach Johan Kirstein presented team members with medals for winning both the Auckland Premier competition and the Gillette Venus Cup qualification for nationals.

Boosting the girls' quest for gold is the construction of an indoor-cricket net facility at the school, which will provide an all-weather training facility for the school's cricketers.

The school's 1st XI girls team was re-established in 2016. The oldest players in the current team were only in Year 10 at the time, yet since then they have made their mark. They have finished third once and second twice, prior to this year's top position in Auckland.



Making history... TGS girls cricket team: Back Row left to right: Gillian Scott (manager); Olivia Priddy; Kennedy Scott; Milly Yorke; Ella Cronshaw; Izzy Fox; Libby Easterbrook; Johan Kirstein (coach) Middle Row: Issy Smith; Jasmine Perry; Scout Hallman; Leah Kampkes; Lucy Perry. Front Row: Ruby Worrall; Anna Browning (captain); Rishika Jaswal

This season's interrupted competition came to an abrupt end after one complete round of the scheduled two. The competition rules set out a formula to be used to calculate the winning team out of the three schools who

were tied on points when the competition ended. This put TGS ahead of two strong girls-only schools: Baradene, and Epsom Girls Grammar, who were last year's national championship winners.

Local board missing from key meeting

Elected members on the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board were missing from a key Auckland Council Emergency Budget meeting earlier this month.

It's understood that members from all other local boards across Auckland attended.

In an email, Devonport-Takapuna Local Board chair Aidan Bennett said he was unable to go as he was "consumed by Covid-related business problems unfortunately. It has been a busy week.

"I put in my apologies. I would have got George (Wood, deputy chair) to go in my absence as I normally do but George was away down country.

"George is filling in for me for another meeting this coming Monday, which is another one that has been sprung on us at a late stage (as last Tuesday's was) and I can't attend as I have prior meetings organised."

Bennett said he attended a chairs' monthly meeting earlier this month and a chairs-only session with Desley Simpson, Emergency Budget meeting chair.

"This provided all chairs with a good opportunity to address budget issues directly with Desley. Which we/I did. As part of the chairs

meeting, we also had a presentation from Kevin Ramsay, head of finance for Auckland Council, and the opportunity to ask him questions related to the budget. Which we/I did."

"Me presenting in the five-minute slot at Tuesday's Emergency Budget committee would not have changed anything that the [Governing Body] has done (on Thursday)."

Bennett also attended a meeting on Wednesday 8 July, which covered the budget extensively.

Local board member Toni van Tonder, who is part of Bennett's ticket, was also out of Auckland at the time of the meeting.

Board member Trish Deans is "furious" the community – through the board – was not represented at last Tuesday's meeting.

"We should have been there as representatives of the community." She said other local boards called her asking "why we weren't there."

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board staff had also failed to let other board members, (Deans, Jan O'Connor and Ruth Jackson) know about the meeting, Deans said. All could have attended on the day, and answered any questions from the Governing Body (GB).

Bennett said as far as asset-recycling sales went, board resolutions "clearly show that I support sensible asset recycling/sales and have not hidden that fact. I also haven't pushed the fact either during these GB meetings."

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Al Fresco nights given green light for possible funding

Al Fresco Fridays in Takapuna, Milford and Devonport are a step closer after being selected for consideration by the government’s Innovating Streets for People Fund.

The fund set up by the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) has \$7 million up for grabs, and offers 90 per cent funding assistance for projects selected. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board has pledged \$30,000 towards the Al Fresco Fridays, which would see pop-up outdoor dining and entertainment in town centres.

Al Fresco Fridays was one of 29 projects approved by Auckland Council and Auckland Transport (AT) for submission for the fund.

The outcome is a bit of a turnaround for the board, as the Al Fresco idea was initially given only a “medium” ranking by council staff, but was then changed to “high”.

Another local project, “Devonport Safer Streets Initiative” by Ken Davis, was put forward by councillor Chris Darby and initially had a “high” rating. However, this idea did not make the cut.

Takapuna Beach Business Association CEO Terence Harpur said: “It is fantastic news that our local initiative, Al Fresco nights, has been chosen as a preferred project.”

Local businesses needed support to keep town centres thriving. “It was fantastic to see

Toni van Tonder and Aidan Bennett advocate strongly for this additional funding to support local businesses with Al Fresco nights.”

Harpur said the initiative would support local hospitality and retail businesses, in particular.

Milford Business Association manager Murray Hill was excited that Al Fresco Fridays “has got past the first hurdle” for funding.

“A lot of work has been put into this application by the three [Business Improvement District] managers and local board members, and as we know, our communities love events in the streets.

“Having a project like this that has simultaneous dining-out in the streets of all three shopping centres will be a fantastic event. With street entertainment at each centre and additional seating in the street for our hospitality businesses on these Al Fresco Friday nights, the Shore will be buzzing,” Hill said.

Hill said it was hoped a bus service in conjunction with AT would allow residents to travel to neighbouring centres without the need to drive their vehicles.

Local board member Toni van Tonder, who led the project for the board, said she was delighted the project had been selected to go forward for NZTA’s consideration.

“Our town centres are the beating hearts of our communities and every time our business associations carve more space out for people, bringing them together to connect, it’s always a massive success and we’re left wondering why our town centres weren’t designed to do it more freely.”

The 90 per cent funding support was “an amazing opportunity that we have tried to seize”, van Tonder said.

“The project gives us an opportunity to experiment with urban design and see how we can continue to build that shop, eat, play local mindset by creating the opportunity to bring people into temporary town squares.

“Now, more than ever, we need to rekindle our love affair with our town centres because we really want them to survive what has been a challenging year,” she said.

NZTA will announce the successful applicants by 31 July.

• Councillor Darby declared an interest when the Ken Davis project was discussed.

“I am asking staff if there is likely to be a third round of applications,” he said. “With or without that third round, I’ll be working with Ken Davis, who put in an enormous effort, on progressing the Clarence St [Devonport] public-space improvements.”

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NZ String Quartet includes Devonport on national tour

Holy Trinity Church will echo with the sound of Beethoven next month, when the New Zealand String Quartet diverts to Devonport on its national tour, *Beethoven 250*.

The tour, celebrates the musical giant's birth in Germany two-and a half centuries ago and his accomplishments as a classical composer and pianist.

The acclaimed chamber music ensemble is playing the first of its three Auckland concerts in Devonport, then touring nationally until October.

Helene Pohl, first-violin for the quartet, says she enjoys performing at Holy Trinity. "It has a particularly warm and welcoming atmosphere – the design, the wood, the size all contribute."

Taking the ferry to get there would be fun too, she said.

Works to be played show the elegant early influences of Mozart and Haydn, before soaring to a sound world that could only be Beethoven's, through String Quartets Opus 18, No. 3 and No. 1; and Opus 59, No. 1.

The Holy Trinity concert is on Saturday 15 August at 7.30pm. For bookings and further tour details, visit nzsqu.org.nz



New Zealand String Quartet... (from left) Helene Pohl, Monique Lapins, Rolf Gjelsten and Gillian Ansell play at Devonport's Holy Trinity Church on 15 August

Greedy Cat comes back

A \$5000 grant supporting a children's theatre show has been transferred, enabling *The Greedy Cat* to be performed in the next school holidays.

The show was originally to have been staged by the Tim Bray Theatre Company at the Pumphouse Theatre during the Easter School Holidays, but the Covid-19 lockdown intervened.

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board agreed to transfer an unspent grant towards venue costs for the delayed production, so the company could make use of marketing and staging material it had prepared but not been able to use.

What's On

Skylight by David Hare

31 July - 8 Aug

Olivier and Tony Award winning play about two people bound together by a shared memory of passion but divided by income and attitude.

Roger Hall's Spreading Out (Play Read)

Sunday 9 August at 3pm

Tadpole Productions return with a play-reading of Spreading Out, directed by Janice Finn.

Stay afterwards for a Q&A with Roger, Janice, and the cast.

Creative Talks: Mark Wallbank

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Contrasting diaries penned by writer-in-residence

When the Covid-19 lockdown delayed Fifi Colston's stay at the Michael King Writers Centre and her work on a diary-style graphic novel, she found another daily visual record taking shape. She talks to Janetta Mackay.

When Fifi Colston finally publishes the book she has been working on at the Michael King Writers Centre this month, it will carry a physical memento of the garden there.

A pressed old-fashioned rose is part of the original manuscript Colston is compiling for her graphic novel.

As the combination may suggest, this is no usual comic-style version of the genre, instead being a delicately illustrated and evocative diary. To give it an atmospheric, aged look, the book was buried in leaf matter, adding a gothic touch in keeping with the haunting record of an unknown student whose story draws in the finder of her diary.

Colston was meant to be writer-in-residence in Devonport for three weeks in April, but Covid-19 controls delayed her trip.

Stuck at home in Wellington, she diverted to a different diary project, recording her thoughts and feelings about lockdown. That very relatable diary – with 50 days of jottings and drawings, ranging from baking to missing loved ones – will be published before her work-in-progress graphic novel.

"I've always kept a visual dairy," Colston explains. Luckily, the routine kept her productive in a time when she says her days were delineated by going for a long walk and watching the 1pm news, rather than completing projects.

Plenty of other people found themselves in that space too, she reckons. "A lot of people said this is my perfect time to finish a novel – not many did."

With the diary as a subtext for her days, come 7pm, with a glass of wine in hand, "something would come to me", she says.

Colston began posting her daily observations online and, prompted by feedback, the idea of publishing the complete set as *Lockdown Sketch Mind* came about. Thanks to some welcome funding from Creative New Zealand, the book will be out in August, published by Cuba Press.

Coming north to Devonport was a good creative nudge for Colston, who lost a lot of her freelance work with Covid-19.

She is known for her illustrations for books and magazines, but also leads drawing workshops for young people and does costume design.

She had three garments on the go for the World of Wearable Art (WOW) show, when it was cancelled, having entered 26 pieces over 24 years.

At first she thought she would miss out on the residency as well, but the centre stepped in. "They were great and delayed it," she says.

Colston said residencies provided not only financial support, but the chance to



Portrait and an artist... Fifi Colston photographed in front of the painting of Michael King at the writers' centre on the slopes of Takarunga, which bears the acclaimed author's name

focus with "time and space away from your everyday life."

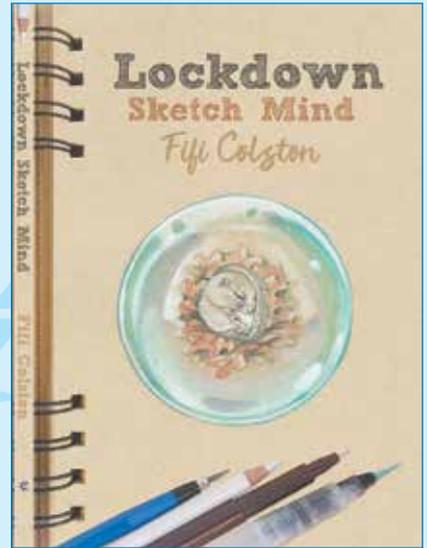
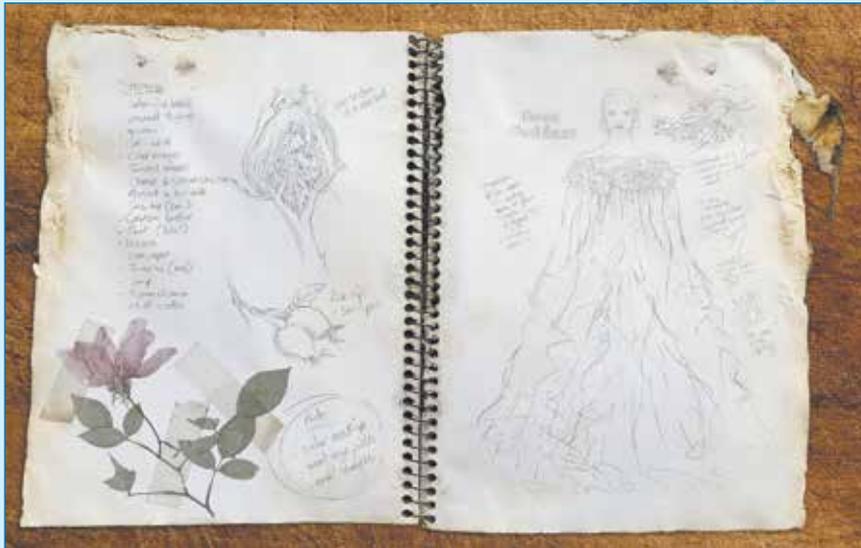
This included eating eggs and toast for tea if she felt like it, enjoying walks around the village, and exploring its cafés and op shops.

Her time at the cosy, well set-up writers' centre was so homely it set the confirmed Wellingtonian musing: "It's been so nice here, if I win Lotto I think I'd move to Devonport."

She loved the character, history and charm of the area. Colston already has one of her two adult children living in Auckland.

She managed to lure her husband to fly up during her fortnight's stay, although for a good reason: it was her 60th birthday, celebrated with a group of friends.

As a mature creative, Colston has enjoyed several other residencies, including one in Dunedin, where the student life sparked the



Pressed into service... Colston pressed a rose from the Writer's Centre into the manuscript she is compiling for a graphic novel in the form of an illustrated diary. Right: *Lockdown Sketch Mind*, compiling daily observations made during Covid-19 lockdown, will be published next month.

idea for the graphic novel, which has the working title *Ampersand*.

From her southern stay she also won a contract to complete a junior fiction book.

Another project on the go is to illustrate the latest in a Kiwi classic series, *The Little Yellow Digger Saves Christmas*, which is being written by the son of the original author, Betty Gilderdale, with Colston taking the author's father Alan's place in

providing the illustrations.

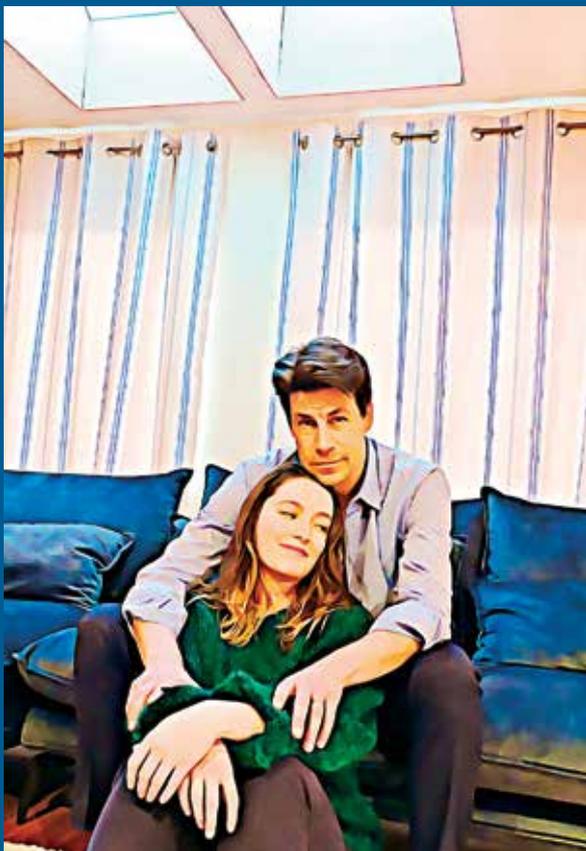
The children's book is a simpler task than the "darker" graphic novel for young adults, with the Devonport rose and other clues to its central character interwoven in the pages.

The *Ampersand* project – "the most complex thing I've ever done" – is expanding to take in the story of the diary's finder, an ambiguous character called

Monday, and possibly another observer as well. Colston says it may take her several years to complete.

"The residency is the sort of time where you can have all those questions and try those things," she said.

Staying in Devonport, like Dunedin before it, is likely to have implanted an idea that comes to fruition later. "Quite often a little thing will spark me."



Twice as Good Productions presents
Olivier and Tony award winning play

Skylight

by David Hare

directed by Suzy Sampson

July 31 - Aug 8

7.30pm

Aug 2 at 4pm

at the Pumphouse Takapuna

The PumPHouse
Theatre

pumphouse.co.nz
ph 4898630



WHAT'S ON @ Devonport Library



Relax and enjoy an hour of colouring, sketching or maybe just a cup of coffee and a chat

Wed 29th July at 10am – a chance to meet some new people (or old friends).

On 12 August, we start a new series of book-group discussions (10am Wed) looking at different topics (flyers will be available in the library soon) plus a chance to share with others what you have been reading and watching – it's nearly film festival time! We also have a great collection of DVDs (films and documentaries) plus Beamafilm, which can be streamed through the library website using your library card.

Collaborating with our community is important to us, so please let us know if you have suggestions.

Activities for the children over the school holidays were very popular. They all had a great time, some taking home a holocron they had made during the *Star Wars* activity.

All our pre-school programmes have now started with Storytime (Mon), Rhymetime (Tues) and Wriggle and Rhyme (Fri) – all starting at 10am.

If you enjoy historic photos of Devonport or just want to know what's happening, keep an eye on the Devonport Library Facebook page. We'd love to see you there!

Ngā mihi,
Devonport Library.

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Long-time Depot manager to depart

Depot Manager Lynn Lawton is stepping down after 14 years.

He leaves the role at the end of 2020, but will continue on the Depot's Board of Trustees and its ArtsLab employment programme.

Depot Arts and Music Space Trust chairperson Margaret Taylor said: "Lynn has consistently guided the Depot with expertise and aroha and he has gifted the board with the time to ensure a suitable replacement of his very big shoes to fill."

Covid-19 and the post-lockdown world had created many challenges for the Depot.

"As trustees we are beginning succession planning along with a review of the future shape and place of the galleries," said Taylor.

"Our bottom line remains that we are a grassroots creative community and that we support creatives across all practices to find a place and a voice in the local and arts environment.

"We are not alone in this. Like many others – businesses, community services and employees – we are attempting to find new ways of working that increase our resilience and support our sustainability," Taylor said.

In Devonport, the Depot had begun a process of collaboration with other creative enterprises, which it was hoped would support and give impetus to 'Buy Local' campaigns.

"At the Depot we are currently exploring how we can continue to offer services that now seem even more important. As other arts centres, such as Te Uru, Govett Brewster and Auckland Art Gallery, begin

to bite the bullet on delivery of programmes and services, the Depot will also need to make changes," Taylor said.

The Depot welcomed any ideas the Devonport community had for its future.

Since it formed more than two decades ago, the Depot has had around 2000 exhibitions, had 1000 musicians and bands make recordings, and received more than 350,000 visitors. It has published 78 editions of *LOUD* magazine and interviewed 97 New Zealand cultural icons.



ST MATTHEW'S
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Sun 16 Aug at 2.30pm

PROGRAMME

Borodin In the Steppes of Central Asia
Brahms Double Concerto Op 102 A minor
Borodin Symphony No 2 B minor



SOLOISTS
Amalia Hall
& Ashley Brown

CONDUCTOR
David Kay

Just a ferry trip to the first classical concert on a Sunday afternoon in the Centre of Auckland post lockdown

ST MATTHEW-IN-THE-CITY
Cnr of Wellesley & Hobson Street, Auckland City

**Notice of
Annual General Meeting**

of the North Shore
Theatre & Arts Trust
(The PumpHouse Theatre) Inc.

**The AGM will be held at 6.30pm,
Wednesday 19 August 2020**

At The PumpHouse Theatre, Killarney Park, off Manurewa Ave, Takapuna.

In addition to the Normal Business of the AGM, nominations are invited for Board Members.

Nominations for Board Members close with the PumpHouse Manager on Wednesday 12 August at 5.00 pm.

**Any Enquiries to Peter Burn,
Chairperson 021 265 9697**



www.pumphouse.co.nz
Phone 09 486 2386

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FOR LEASE

This ground floor tenancy, occupied by Gannaway Mercer, Chartered Accountants, who are moving to larger premises, comprises 101m² of high quality fit-out with 3 on-site car parks, 3 offices, reception area, kitchen/staff room, open plan 4+ work station areas and bathroom with shower facilities.

These immaculate premises have high exposure to foot and car traffic on Wynyard Street in the centre of Devonport and would suit a number of business opportunities for professionals, medical and retail.

**CONTACT OWNER: Mike Gannaway on
021 926 946 or michael@gannaway.co.nz**



Young actor wins role in play at the Pumphouse

When 16-year-old Ryan Wood began taking drama classes, he didn't aspire to be the city's next top Shakespearean actor or make it to Broadway.

He just loved acting because he could explore different roles and found it was a way to escape the tedious routine of high-school life.

Ryan, who is in year 11 at Takapuna Grammar School, has been cast in his first serious role, in the award-winning play, *Skylight*, set to hit the stage at the PumpHouse Theatre at the end of the month.

Not every teenage actor gets the opportunity to play a supporting role in a full-scale production, but as nervous as Ryan is to perform, he has also worked hard to improve his acting skills.

Ryan has taken weekly drama classes at the Tim Bray Company Theatre since he was just eight years old, and has thoroughly enjoyed the glamour and excitement of on-stage productions.

"Acting isn't the only thing I want to pursue in my life, but I want to see where it will take me," he said.

Ryan's mother Jenny, who he jokingly describes as his manager, can't wait to see him perform in *Skylight*.

"Ryan has worked really hard and we are so proud of him," she said.

The last role Ryan had was in the *Santa Claus Show* in 2016. Since then he has auditioned for television ads and continued his drama classes.

His drama teacher for the last year, Suzy Sampson, is the *Skylight* director.

He auditioned for the role of Edward, who is the son of Tom Sergeant, a rich restaurant owner grieving the passing of his wife and seeking consolation from a former lover.

Ryan is excited to be taking on the role, in which he is required to adopt an English accent.

"Ryan was chosen because he showed a level of maturity needed for this very challenging role and has a great understanding of his character," said Sampson.

"We have found Zoom-call rehearsals to be an asset because they allow the actors to interact at a very personal level focusing on just one another. With added rehearsals in person, Ryan has gone from strength to strength."



Drawn to the stage... Ryan Wood has taken weekly drama classes since he was eight years old

Beaumont on Ngaio Marsh longlist

Devonport author Sheryl Beaumont has made the longlist of 12 authors competing for the Ngaio Marsh Award. The annual prize for best crime, mystery and thriller book will be announced in October.

Writing as S.L. Beaumont, her novel *Shadow of a Doubt* has already won the 2020 Indie Reader mystery/suspense/thriller award.

Former Michael King Writers Centre resident J.P. Pomare is also a finalist for his novel, *In the Clearing*.

VICTORIA THEATRE DEVONPORT



NOW SHOWING

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| House of Cardin (E) 95min NEW | |
| The Secret: Dare to Dream (PG) 107min NEW | |
| Where'd You Go, Bernadette (M) 109min NEW | |
| Calm with Horses (R18) 100min | |
| Shirley 107min | |
| Waves 135min | |
| Military Wives (M) 112min (31Jul-2Aug) | ADVANCE SCREENINGS |
| The Man in the White Suit (1951) (G) 85min | SPECIAL SCREENING |

COMING SOON

| | |
|---|--------|
| Military Wives (M) 112min | 6 AUG |
| This Town (M) 91min | 6 AUG |
| Billy Liar (1963) (PG) 98min | 6 AUG |
| Romantic Road (PG) 81min | 13 AUG |
| Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope (1977) (PG) 125min | 13 AUG |
| Top Dog Film Festival 2020 | 14 AUG |

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Birthday parties, Private functions, Catering optional
*minimum spend applies



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VIEW | PLEASE CONTACT PETER

PRICE | \$2.495M

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STANLEY BAY | 42 WATERVIEW ROAD | Exceptional Home With Commanding Views



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VIEW | PLEASE CONTACT KIM

PRICE | BY NEGOTIATION

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KIM PAUSINA 021 201 7488 | 445 3414

DEVONPORT | 15A ASCOT AVENUE | A Contemporary Sanctuary



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VIEW | PLEASE CONTACT KIM

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AUCKLAND CENTRAL | Glamorous Waterfront Condo | Lighter Quay



Get yourselves ready for the America's Cup action here in this bespoke designer's own apartment in Stratis on Lighter Quay. Fabulous views with Sky Tower the focal point. 127sqm on the water's edge of Wynyard Harbour, right in the heart of our beautiful CBD waterfront. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, the latest in innovation and technology including a Fibaro home automation system.

VIEW | PLEASE CONTACT ALISON

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