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**Historic theatre drawings  
in safe hands... p3**

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vegan butter... p5**

**Interview: Siblings bowled  
over by Stanley Bay... p22**

## Uber Eats driver terrorised at McDonalds

A delivery driver was accosted at the McDonald's drive thru in Belmont last weekend. In an incident in the early hours, a man jumped repeatedly on the driver's car.

The driver was reportedly badly shaken, but physically uninjured. Three staff, in-

cluding a female manager, were working at the time, with the restaurant doors locked as is usual at night. They did not see the attack. It took place by the order microphone stop, and staff were alerted to it by a woman who ran to the pick-up window to let them know

and to call for help.

The upset Uber driver, who did not get the chance to place the order before the attack, cancelled his job.

Police did not attend during the incident,

**To page 2**

## Holiday fun produces rock-star moggies



**Cool for kids... Alisa Tikalenko (9) was among local school children enjoying a holiday programme at the Devonport Community House. More photos, pages 12 and 13.**

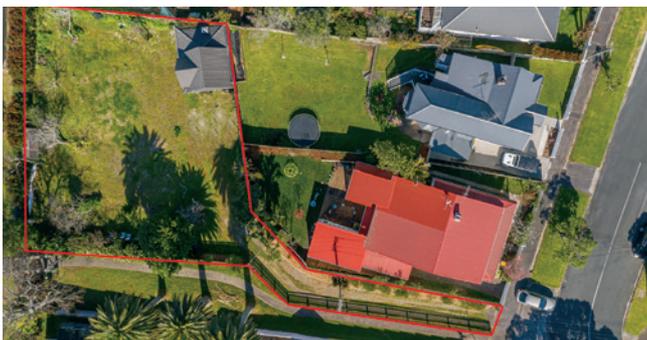
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**From page 1**    **Mac attack**

but told the Flagstaff they were making inquiries, including reviewing CCTV footage.

Inspector Simon Walker, Acting Area Commander for Waitemata East said thankfully no-one had been injured, however, the driver was left shaken by what occurred. The incident took place on 3 October, just after 1am, when the victim was in his car. "A male has jumped onto his vehicle and continued to do so for a few minutes," said Inspector Walker.

The Flagstaff has been told the vehicle's windscreen was smashed and that it suffered other damage.



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**NEXT ISSUE:** October 23  
**ADVERTISING DEADLINE:** October 16

# Home-invasion probe continues

Police inquiries are continuing into a home invasion last month when a family was held at gunpoint at an address in Clifton Rd, Hauraki (Flagstaff, 25 September). No arrests have been made.

Police have obtained CCTV footage as part of their enquiries. The Flagstaff understands the tenants at the address are in the process of moving out permanently.

At least two armed men entered the home around 10pm on 17 September. A number of items were stolen, including a wallet.

No one at the address was harmed. Police are encouraging anyone with information about the identities of those involved to contact Police on 105 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111, quoting file 200918/1905.

# NZ squash champs

Devonport squash clubs toasted two national junior champions last weekend.

Aggie Griffiths, from Devonport Squash Club, won the under-11 girls title in Christchurch, while Zoe Lepper, from Belmont Park, won the girls under-13 title.

**Cup winners... Zoe Lepper (left) and Aggie Griffiths**



## 3 Victoria Rd: empty for 823 days

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

It has now been unoccupied for 823 days. Auckland Council development arm Panuku is working through the future options for the building.



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# Drawings for Victoria Theatre found in safe hands



**Devonport history protected... Sarah Cox, University of Auckland special-collections archivist, and Nigel Bond, special-collections team leader**

A chance conversation at the Victoria Theatre has revealed historic drawings of the cinema, which have been hiding in plain sight at the University of Auckland Library.

Nigel Bond, Devonport local and the team leader of the university’s special collections, was at the Vic about to see a movie, and chatting to manager Philipp Jaser about plans on the wall of a proposed building refurbishment.

“I mentioned we had a set of drawings of a 1929 reconstruction and it was news to Philipp.”

The discovery sparked a “flurry of emails” from Victoria Theatre Trust co-chair Margot McRae. Trust members are planning a trip to the archives to view the material. McRae hopes to secure print copies of the drawings to hang in the theatre foyer.

The Flagstaff visited the archives last Friday and can reveal the drawings are truly memorable historical documents.

The four pages of plans by architect Daniel Patterson are intricately drawn – ink on linen and water- coloured, a common practice at the time, most likely to impress clients. They are titled: Reconstruction of Theatre Devonport for NZ Picture Supplies.

The plans are dated 11 April 1929 and signed by two witnesses, the employer and the contractor.

Sarah Cox, a special-collection archivist, said the signed plans were evidence the work was signed off and ready to go, and most likely would have been accompanied by a written contract.

Patterson was a well-known architect of the era, who designed many notable buildings and theatres around the country. He was also active in Devonport, designing a number of houses, including one for the Duder family.

The University of Auckland special collection has around 80,000 sheets of drawings,

including others from Devonport, among them several houses in the suburb that were designed by “The Group” Architects.

The collection began to expand in the 1960s, with drawings often donated when architects retire or by trusts and other benefactors.

They are accessed by research students and others and used in classes for architecture students.

The Victoria Theatre was built in 1912 and is the oldest surviving purpose-built cinema in the Southern Hemisphere.



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# Award-winning local designers

Macfie Architecture is an award-winning practice led by Devonport village locals the Macfie family. Launching the practice in 2006, directors Michael and Rebecca Macfie recently relocated their studio from Britomart, to be closer to home, in the historical Alison's Buildings in the heart of Devonport.

The family-led practice of six has become synonymous with heritage-zoned residential renovation and extension design, as well as architecturally significant new builds across Auckland and greater New Zealand over the past 14 years, having been recognised by their industry peers for their villa renovation work (Resene ADNZ Design Award 2019).

With wide practical experience in design, building, heritage, and contemporary architecture, Macfie Architecture has built a large portfolio of residential design projects, from concept through to detailed design. Their passion and focus are on the successful integration of the preservation of the old and the careful adaption of the new.

Macfie Architecture upholds the philosophy that architecture and beautiful design should be accessible to all – regardless of the scale or budget. Working across a spectrum of projects, from small bathroom renovations through to architecturally significant new builds, allows the designers to remain agile and lend expertise in one area of design to another. With the majority of new clients coming as a referral, Macfie Architecture's hands-on nature sees that both relationships and beautiful design are built and maintained.

## Q&A with Michael Macfie, Director

**What was your vision for your practice?**  
My family are based in Central Otago and have always had a construction and development company. Seeing their work ethic, drive and the fruits of their labour made me want to carve out a career for myself. So, once I had gained enough experience, I took the leap and launched Macfie Architecture.

**What types of projects do you work on?**  
We specialise in residential new build and renovation/additions across New Zealand. Our tight-knit team of six operate from a loft studio in Devonport. Each of our projects is unique – from the climatic requirements of an alpine new build, to the historical considerations of a 150-year-old villa, this helps keep our design methods agile and our research and thinking ever evolving.

**What types of projects would you like to do more of?**  
Our favourite projects are those when we create something entirely new, or a revision of the space entirely. Some of our prized projects involve a villa or bungalow and the design of an entirely new reconfiguration of space and function – while also keeping and maintaining the original features that make a home so unique. We also live for a blank-canvas new build. Our specific signature is the use of high ceilings and exposed trusses. My wife Rebecca and I have spent a lot of time in Scandinavia and have a penchant for their balance of raw materials, form and

timeless design aesthetic. Something we love to bring to the table when it comes to meeting with a new client who wants to create something wonderful.

**What has been your most memorable or favourite project to date? And why?**

A landmark project for us was Daily Bread – an artisan bakery from the team behind Orphans Kitchen. The original neoclassical design of the building had fallen to ruin while serving as a bank. We were charged with bringing it to life, creating an outdoor dining space with custom steel joinery, bringing the building up to code and all the incredible detail and processes of introducing an industrial kitchen into such a space. We are proud to say that the space has been recognised by Auckland Council as a historic building and is now protected. Daily Bread has developed a cult status and has become a true destination for gluten enthusiasts.



KITCHEN IMAGE © STUDIO: WEIR

PORTRAIT: MICHAEL SCHULTZ

DAILY BREAD, VILLA AND BUNGALOW IMAGES BY TORI HAYLEY



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# Spreading a taste of vegan

A Devonport couple have launched a new brand of vegan butter they developed at home in a kitchen blender.

Aline Fonseca and Patrick Malloch have been eating a plant-based diet for around four years.

And while they tried all manner of margarines and alternatives, they found they really missed butter.

Fonseca, a chef, originally from Brazil, started experimenting in her Albert Rd kitchen and Vutter was born.

Various incarnations later it was tested on family and friends and was even served at the couple's February 2018 wedding, where guests were blown away by its taste.

The couple decided to develop Vutter further and set up a "lab" in a food truck they had purchased.

From a couple of pots "out of the blender in the kitchen", the enterprise now has a commercial kitchen in the city producing 250 tubs a batch. Vutter has been on the market for about a month, sold in selected health-food shops and at markets.

Locally, it is available at The Fresh Market stores in Devonport and Hauraki Corner, and at IE Produce in Takapuna.

Vutter is made from natural ingredients, including coconut and sunflower oils, rock salt, apple cider and vinegar.

Malloch, an architect, says it contains no dairy, gluten, soy, nuts or artificial additives.

"There's no oestrogens or chemicals from the dairy industry... it's cruelty-free – it's going to rock the world," he says.

Feedback from customers has been "great", with many repeat orders.

Fonseca was surprised by the take-up from the over-65s, won over by the taste.

Possibly the true test, though, is the reaction from the couple's four kids. They are getting through a 260gm tub every few days, with uses including garlic butter and



**Natural alternative... Aline Fonseca and Patrick Malloch plan to expand their vegan-butter business**

popcorn toppings.

"It's a bit of dream to be able to do this," says Fonseca. "It's a product that is not only good for you but better for the planet."

The next step is to contract a commercial

manufacturer to produce enough Vutter to sell into restaurants and supermarkets.

Other ideas for the couple's umbrella company, Feliz Wholefoods, include a garlic Vutter.

## What's Happening?

The property market is on fire, with demand well ahead of supply. Hence prices are rising pretty much across the whole country as provincial "Zoom" towns are emerging with [now] mobile workers.

But bank-staff shortages, increased loan applications, record-low interest rates and additional lines of questioning in a post-Covid world, have resulted in increasingly longer home-loan application turnaround times (now 10 days or more), leading to many homebuyers missing out.

Lenders are also now doing multiple checks on income security, particularly for self-employed applicants. Prior to Covid-19, they were happy to look at the previous years' financial statements to gauge an applicant's financial situation; whereas now they're looking into interim statements and detailed forecasts. This is another factor contributing to the delayed application-processing timeframes many homebuyers are experiencing.

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# Grappling with an explosive nuclear past:

A family outing to the Torpedo Bay Navy Museum turned into a two-year labour of love for an Auckland photographer inspired to bring to life a sorry chapter of British nuclear testing in the Pacific.

Denise Baynham has documented the stories of New Zealand Navy personnel who witnessed the tests as part of 'Operation Grapple' and who over the decades since have suffered the consequences.

Upon reading about it for the first time, Baynham says she was stunned, intrigued and horrified. "Something in the history really struck a chord in me."

She conceived a project to photograph some of the men, now aged in their 80s and 90s, and to record their personal stories.

"They've been really welcoming – all have been happy to be involved. They feel like they've never got the recognition they deserved."

She chose to picture the men in their homes and to use their own words to recall the events that for many were life-changing.

From seeing their hands lit up in skeletal form when bombs were detonated, to suffering cancers and post-traumatic stress disorder, the toll of the tests was high.

One veteran's wife suffered 13 miscarriages, others had children who were stillborn or suffered birth defects or, as adults, chose not to risk getting pregnant for fear of inter-generational complications.



**Sorry saga... Denise Baynham photographed 19 veterans of Operation Grapple, including Roy Sefton (left picture) and Tere Tahī (right picture)**

The New Zealand Nuclear Test Veterans Association (NZNTVA) has battled for many years to gain proper recognition for the men.

They served on HMNZS Pukaki and Rotoiti, frigates that were sent to Christmas Island in the mid-Pacific during the British hydrogen-bomb testing in 1957-58.

The crew, some as young as 17, performed

support tasks such as weather-monitoring and patrol.

"I feel like a caretaker of their stories," says Baynham, whose photographs will remain on display at the museum until December in the show called *We Were There -- Operation Grapple*.

Among the subjects included is Peter

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# Exhibition reveals sad results

Major of Narrow Neck, who was a rating and cook on the Rotoiti. He now suffers lung problems that he puts down to asbestos insulation used on pipes below decks.

"I remember around the detonations it was very still, not a sound. You didn't hear the birds for quite a while. And then afterwards, you could hear them going crazy and the clear white light."

Major, like others who told their stories, also fondly remembers the camaraderie of deployment.

The Navy Museum hopes to get some of the veterans together for a function later in the year. Its communications manager, Jane Cotty, said the museum was honoured to host the exhibition and had plans to get Baynham back for a public talk once Covid-19 levels allowed.

Visitors could see the photographs and then go into the main part of the museum for more information about Operation Grapple, she said.

Baynham, who is well established as a commercial and lifestyle photographer and a tutor, says: "I've been a professional photographer for 17 years and this is the work I'm most proud of."

Completing the exhibition was challenging, however, with it taking time to track down the veterans, with help from the NZNTVA. The two Manawatu men who set up the association, Tere Tahi and chairman Roy Sefton,

who had had a heart attack, were among her subjects.

Baynham applied for grants to cover travel and other costs, but when these did not come through she decided to push on and self-fund the project. "One of the vets died. I thought, I don't have the liberty of waiting."

In the end, she photographed 19 veterans, including the president of the Napier RSA, John Purcell, and his dog Toby.

That RSA branch helped with \$1000 towards framing costs.

Baynham says it has all been worth it. "I'm thrilled to get it over the finish line." She hopes the exhibition will go on to be shown elsewhere.

She may add in some additional veterans who came forward when the project was well advanced, being mindful that their numbers are dwindling.

With a grandfather who served in the Army in World War II, Baynham said in some ways she saw the project as a homage to him as well.

These were men who served and wore their medals with pride. "They went on to live lives and it wasn't until years later that they met up at reunions and the jigsaw fitted." Comrades had passed on and they realised their service had led to health and relationship problems. Humanising this was her aim.

"A lovely aspect of this project is a lot of these veterans have rekindled contacts."



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## National's Watts a clear winner at candidates meeting



**Man with a plan... National's North Shore candidate Simon Watts chose to focus on local issues**

**More than 100 people attended the Devonport election-candidates night at Holy Trinity Church last Thursday, with an overflow of around 30 watching a live stream in the church hall next door. Rob Drent reports.**

With outgoing National MP Maggie Barry – in full party colours, including a blue mask – a keen observer in the front row, the party's aspiring North Shore electorate candidate Simon Watts was low-key on stage, dressed in a smart suit, looking every bit the accountant he once was.

However, once the talking started Watts was animated, with a clear strategy – local meeting, focus on identified local problems: sewage on beaches, particularly Milford; the need for a second harbour crossing; more capacity at North Shore hospital; “more ferries, not less”; and the widening of Lake Rd.

Labour party candidate Romy Udanga took a different approach. He was campaigning

earlier in the day when a Devonport resident had asked him who he was. He took this to heart and launched with a review of his CV. It came across as dry and failed to connect with the audience, which, from the applause given Udanga later, was left-leaning. If you were observing the night in terms of winners and losers, Udanga gave up a lot of points early on and never fully recovered.

The evening, which also included candidates from TOP (Shai Navot), ACT (Nick Kearney), and the Greens (Liz Rawlings), and NZ First representative Anne Martin, was well mannered, without bickering and heckling. At a previous election, Hone Harawira of the Mana Movement turned up and got into a stoush with Barry. No fireworks this time, but several points of interest.

Watts said he was “sick and tired” of the lack of action on Auckland infrastructure issues and the view that they were not government problems. He wanted local government to

come up with a plan and central government to fund the programme. “Checking an app before taking kids swimming at local beaches is not something I want.” What he did want is changes to legislation to get Fullers’ Devonport-to-Auckland route under Auckland Transport control.

Udanga took a more national approach, saying from his surveying of local people the key concerns included housing, jobs creation, public-health provision and transport. Covid-19 was ninth on the ranked list he compiled. So low, “because Labour is doing a great job on that” – for which he received the biggest cheer of the night.

Jacinda Ardern barely got a mention from Udanga, possibly a misstep as he could have done with a bit of the Prime Minister’s fairy dust to add some glitter to his cause. Late in the evening though, he did score some points with his concerns over the Hauraki Gulf.

Rawlings kept closely to the Green Party

### Swerves and sweeps: some awards on the night

**The Beauden Barrett Shield for Biggest Swerve:** Simon Watts’ minor gaffe advocating the widening of Lake Rd was picked up by a member of the audience, asking how this was going to happen (it is not planned in current Lake Rd upgrades). Watts fudged the question without admitting he over-egged his Lake Rd statement.

**The Lyn Lawton Cup for Realism:** ACT’s Nick Kearney, who said the North Shore seat was clearly National’s, with a 13,000 or so majority. Simon Watts was going to win, he said, and everyone else on the podium was competing for party votes.

**Most Promising Player Award:** TOP’s Shai Navot. The party’s deputy leader, former Carmel College student

and crown prosecutor impressed with her clear answers. TOP’s policy to tax owners of the 40,000 empty houses in Auckland, to ease our housing crisis, was well received by the audience.

**The Failure to Sweep it Under the Carpet Certificate:** neither Romy Udanga or Liz Rawlings were entirely convincing when questioned on the \$11 million funding to a private green school.

script. Sensibly for a Devonport audience, she highlighted the Greens' environment policies, steering clear of wealth taxes.

The Greens' proposals to bring light rail to the North Shore and its emphasis on sustainable energy – wind and solar power, and electric cars – might have appealed to the social conscience of Devonport constituents, who have been party-voting Green in increasing numbers in recent elections.

All on the stage wanted competition opened up for the ferry service, except Rawlings who advocated for a local- or national- government operator.

A review of how Auckland Council and its council-controlled organisations are structured was broadly supported by candidates.

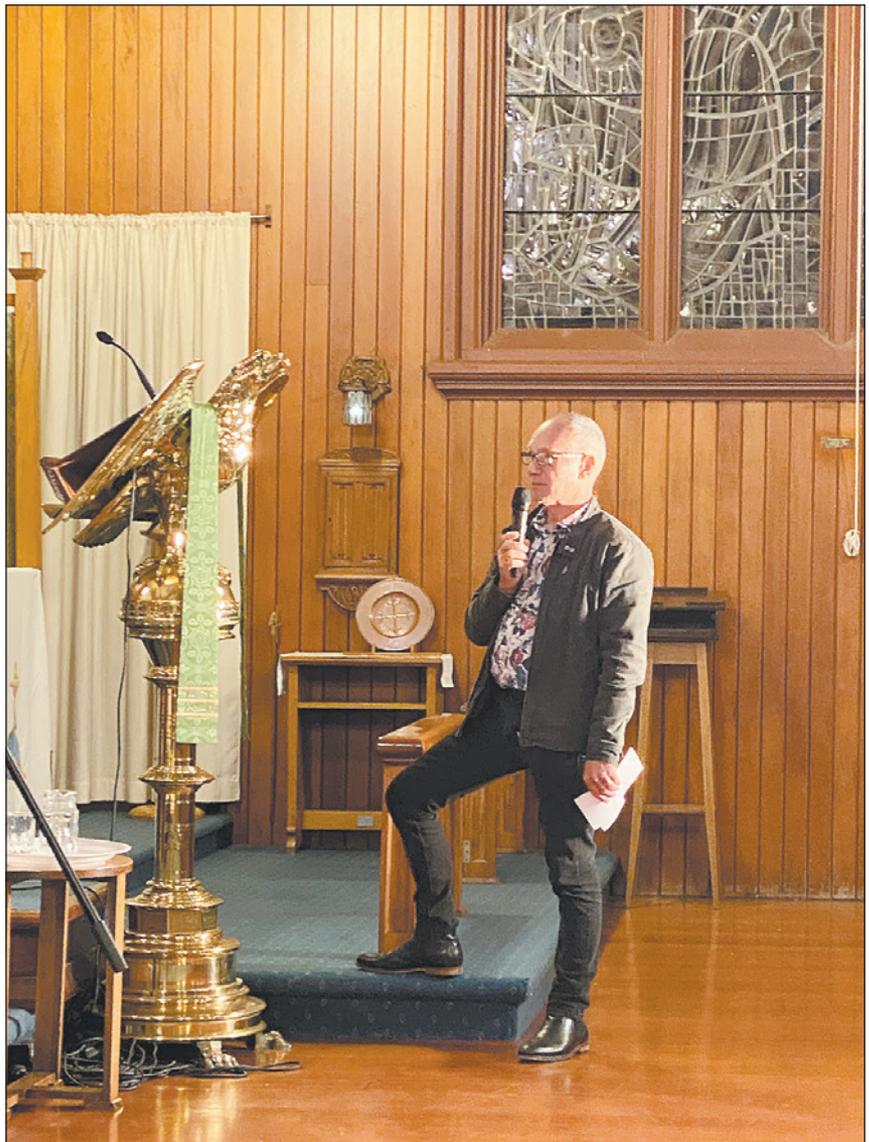
Of the minor parties, the contrast between NZ First and TOP was marked. Martin spoke about how proud she was to be the mother of cabinet minister Tracey Martin and quoted Winston Peters, leader of the “common-sense party”. The energetic delivery from Navot must have left some feeling TOP had the makings of replacing NZ First as an alternative smaller party.

But the hero of the night was arguably Holy Trinity Church itself.

Previous candidates nights have been held at the Depot or the Devonport Community House. But Holy Trinity, already known for its top-flight concert acoustics, proved an excellent public-meeting venue.

Moderator Lyn Lawton had the best line of the night: discussion of the marijuana referendum was off the agenda because “no one smokes in Devonport”.

He was given a bottle of wine, after announcing he would retire from the role after serving 17 years as the man in the middle at both local-body and general-election candidates meetings.



**Changing of the guard...Lyn Lawton (above), is retiring as a candidate-meeting moderator. Below: Maggie Barry (wearing rosette), outgoing North Shore MP, was still flying the party colours in support of Simon Watts.**



## Free movie at The Vic

The Victoria Theatre is marking two milestones this month – its 108th birthday and the 10-year anniversary of its reopening.

The Vic will be celebrating in style with a free screening of the Jazz Age movie *The Great Gatsby* on 26 October, with an option to dress up for those wanting to enter into the flapper spirit.

Along with cinemas worldwide, The Vic has taken a hit from Covid this year. But it has endured and overcome many setbacks and downturns over the last 108 years.

“The Vic is such a survivor, it’s almost a symbol of endurance,” says Victoria Theatre Trust (VTT) co-chair Margot McRae. “It has endured hardships and failures and wonderful successes too. The one constant thing about it is the community support it’s received over the years. We would never have been able to reopen it in 2010 without the tremendous backing from locals.”

She said the koha-entry film is a way of thanking the community for its support and celebrating The Vic’s survival to become an integral part of Devonport life.

An American entrepreneur built the theatre in 1912 and two years later tried to sell up and return to the US, but was prevented by World War 1 restrictions.

In 1929, the theatre was extended and updated for the advent of the ‘talkies’, but closed within a year because of the Depression. Fuller Haywards bought it and the cinema operated successfully for many years under its successor, Kerridge Odeon. In 1989, an estimated one million dollars was spent turning it into Charlie Gray’s Twin Cinemas, but again financial problems caused it to close within two years.

However, the romance of the cinema persisted and various owners ran it with some success for the next ten years.

Whenever it faced closure, the locals banded together to try to keep it in operation. In 2006, they persuaded North Shore City Council to buy the building and eventually agree on a 33-year lease with VTT.

The Vic is now owned by Auckland Council and the trust is responsible for its operation, maintenance and restoration.

• Monday 26 October at 8pm. *The Great Gatsby*. Entry by koha. Bookings essential to secure your seat: [thevic.co.nz](http://thevic.co.nz)

## Kids just wanna...



**Crafty creations... Five-year-old Evie Chapple Dodd (above), and Lena Jeftic (8, opposite), put their imaginations to work in an art-and-craft session during the holiday programme at Devonport Community House**



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Saturday	10 October	10am - 2pm
Tuesday	13 October	12pm - 4pm
Thursday	15 October	2pm - 5pm

**IMPORTANT:** Drop-in sessions will only be held if Auckland is at COVID-19 Alert Level 1.

**Feedback is open until Sunday 18 October**



Find out more. Call us on **09 366 6400** or visit [AT.govt.nz/HaveYourSay](https://at.govt.nz/HaveYourSay)



# Weathermaster Auckland - creating new liveable spaces both indoor and outdoor

After 15 years at NZ Window Shades, Janene Gillon decided to try corporate life in a large retail group. However, two years later she realised that her passion was face-to-face sales, direct to consumers.

When the opportunity to become the exclusive distributor for Weathermaster Auckland came up in 2018, Janene immediately called the parent company, who said, "Great! We've been waiting for your call."

"The corporate nine-to-five life just wasn't for me. As the exclusive distributor for Weathermaster products, I am not stuck in an office. I get to travel all over Auckland and further afield to consult, and it also provides a lifestyle where I can spend time with my grandchildren," she says.

Janene, whose Milford home doubles as a showroom, says she's more of a design consultant than a transactional sales rep.

"I sell with a consultative approach, listening to my customers' needs and then coming up with a unique solution for them. Sometimes my solution is slightly different to what they originally had in mind, but it's a solution that helps create that new space – either indoor or outdoor."

"Everyone likes to enjoy a glass of wine or coffee outside, including me, and the Weathermaster products help make that space useable, protected and private," says Janene, who has lived on the shore for 30 years.

But it's not only the outdoor spaces that are important.

As summer approaches, indoor products like shutters and automated blinds provide UV protection and shade that makes using the internal spaces more pleasant.

"Our indoor blinds can be hardwired to the mains during a build process or installed at any time with a rechargeable battery which requires charging once a year, based



on two operations a day.

"Motorisation is currently the most sought-after feature of our products," she says. "The ability to open and close blinds or awnings at set times in the day is hugely popular as it facilitates UV protection, privacy, temperature control, and making a house look lived in, which is important if you're away from home or away from your bach.

"We also have motion sensors that automatically retracts your awnings depending on wind velocity. So if you leave them extended while you're out and the wind picks up, they will retract depending on your settings," she says.

Janene says that it's not unusual for her to be working in Auckland one day then

travelling up to places like Omaha the next, installing products at the same customer's bach. She enjoys being able to offer high-quality products, built to last and incorporating the latest technology.

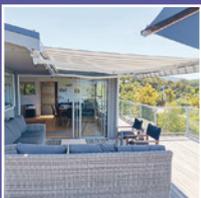
Weathermaster Auckland products are all made to measure and manufactured at parent-company NZ Window Shades' East Tamaki plant in Auckland, an operation that has been going for 65 years.

"We can design, build and install any of our products within 10-15 working days," she says.

Janene won distributor of the year in 2019, putting her success down to a personable and professional approach with her customers. "I treat my customers the way I would expect to be treated."

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**By Rob Drent**

It has been a testing few weeks for transport infrastructure around Auckland and in Devonport.

Auckland Transport (AT) had no sooner decided to axe the long-standing Stanley Bay ferry service at Christmas than a truck crash on the Auckland Harbour Bridge halved the number of lanes available, highlighting the fragility of our citywide road network.

Numbers on the ferries soared as commuters looked for alternatives to using the bridge, though Devonport sailings were not swamped as some had predicted.

Then the Bayswater ferry was put out of action due to damage to its docking station. And last week, the harbour bridge was closed again due to wind gusts.

Whatever next?

Auckland's transport problems and the decades-long failures to keep infrastructure up with population growth have rapidly become an election issue.

The Devonport peninsula is a microcosm of the wider Auckland shambles. Yes, we have ferry services to the city, but as Stanley Bay has shown, these are not as secure as many would have thought. While Devonport Wharf has been upgraded over the years, a Bayswater ferry terminal, designed and planned 20 years ago, has been mothballed and is so far off the radar it is not even in Auckland Council's 10-year plan. A functioning terminal (with feeder buses) would make it a far more attractive option for passengers. Looking at heritage photos of trams departing a bustling Bayswater terminal, bound for Takapuna and Milford, shows our transport system has gone back-

wards rather than forwards.

Meanwhile, the \$47-million Lake Rd upgrade is on hold due to the Covid-19-related Auckland Council funding crisis. Yet multi-unit developments on the peninsula are still proceeding, with little thought, it seems, for transport implications.

One of AT's sillier decisions was to remove a bus route that went past the Ryman retirement village in Ngataringa Rd, just as residents were beginning to move in.

Last year, Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member Jan O'Connor called for a Devonport peninsula public-transport strategy. This seems an increasingly sensible idea.

AT is currently seeking feedback on AT Local and the 806 and 807 buses, but this is really tinkering around the edges. The ferry services have not been included, and AT Local only runs up to Belmont.

While public transport is a key platform of the Lake Rd upgrade, cars need to be fitted into the mix.

A public-transport strategy for Devonport could be used as a pilot that could be rolled through other parts of Auckland, with local-area solutions incorporated into a wider city network.

At the moment, Auckland Council (and

the government) don't appear to be doing either particularly well.

Last week, Devonport-Takapuna Local Board deputy chair George Wood reposted online, without comment, a Devonport Flagstaff opinion piece on the future of Lake Rd, written in 2015 by councillor Chris Darby. I've always broadly supported Darby's ideas on public transport, and in the article his Lake Rd solutions included bus lanes and the future provision of light rail/trams down the corridor.

The trouble is with the timeline Darby put up. The Lake Rd upgrade was supposed to be completed by 2020, with a light-rail/tram spur connecting Devonport to a wider Auckland rail system possibly in place by 2030.

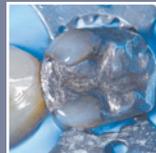
The Lake Rd upgrade hasn't happened yet, and trams seem a pipe dream. The glacial pace of progress must be just as frustrating for councillors as it is for residents.

A financier friend living in England says even with the economic implications of Covid-19 on the economy, now is the time for the big spend-up on Auckland's transport infrastructure. Money has never been cheaper to borrow and government-backed long-term construction projects would stimulate the economy.



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# Rolling out the welcome mat a century on



**Bowls and the bay... Though a bowls club at Stanley Bay was officially launched a century ago, this photograph on the site from 1909 shows men thought to be in playing whites. Inset: Stanley Bowling & Petanque Club president Sheila Stevens on the club's balcony.**

In its centenary year, the Stanley Bowling & Petanque Club is looking ahead, determined to celebrate its position as a community hub.

With character clubrooms perched above its green overlooking Ngataringa Bay, it's no surprise the club has long been a gathering point for locals. Some play and stay, others pop in just for Friday night drinks on the balcony as the sun sparkles low across the water.

Club president Sheila Stevens wants this convivial tradition to continue, while attracting the next generation of players and social members.

A give-it-a-go afternoon on 7 November will be an opportunity for those not familiar with the tucked-away gem to have a look around and try the club's green and petanque terrain. And current and former members will come to play and reminisce over afternoon tea on 17 October to mark its official 100-year anniversary.

Play began at the site more than a century ago, however, with the land bought in 1908. Old photographs taken soon after show men in whites.

As the decades progressed, women took their turn on the green, but it was a decision in the mid-1990s to merge play that made the club something of a trailblazer. Combined play has been a feature at the Stanley Bay club ever since. Men and women compete on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons over the summer season, and are able to dress casually, rather than in regulation whites.

Stevens says the president at the time of the

merging, Malcolm Iversen, saved the club. Membership had dropped and a deal with a developer was on the table, but Iversen rallied locals to join and vote against the sale. The petanque terrain was added, attracting extra interest, with play year-round.

Current membership stands at 100, with around 20 regular active bowlers and a similar number playing petanque.

Social members join in post-play activities, including monthly quiz nights and meals. Links are being forged with the Ryman retirement village across the water, but Stevens is just as keen to attract those new to bowls, and business groups.

"We do encourage hires and one-off dos

because they help us pay the bills," she says. Instruction and gear is available. For functions involving liquor licences, applications must be made with plenty of notice.

Stevens is justly proud of the club's history – a notable member was the 1953 national singles champion Roy McMaster – but it's the future she is focussed on. Twilight play is planned and it's always a good time to socialise and enjoy the view.

She explains the appeal of bowls for herself: "It's a thinking game that keeps me fit and flexible, is social and fun; it's competitive, but not overly so. A great combination."

• Club part of Stanley Bay paradise for siblings. Pages 18 and 19.



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4 2 1 1 2

**Hello Hauraki! Hello Home!**  
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**Auction**  
In Rooms, 29th October at 6.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
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**Diana Murray**  
M 021 911522  
**Ian Cunliffe**  
M 027 227 9322

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**Devonport 3 Turnbull Road**

4 2 2 1 1

**Narrow Neck Beach Villa**  
Located on the last street off Vauxhall Road before the beach, you will find this grand single bay villa. On a full site with flat access to the back garden from the living area you will love the opportunity that this home presents. The wide entrance hall way with original kauri floor boards and wonderful high stud height leads you into the home and offers you a taste of what is to follow.

**Tender**  
Closes 21st October 2020 at 4.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23275](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23275)

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**Devonport 160 Calliope Road**

5 3 3 2 2

**Relaxed Family Beach House**  
If you have dreamed of living in the city, but enjoying the feeling of being on holiday, this could be the home you have been waiting for. This charming, elevated villa looks out across the green landscape of Ngataranga Park to the waters of the Bay beyond. Maximising its great bones, it has been recently renovated by the current owners who brought up their three children in this family friendly area.

**Auction**  
18th October at 12.00pm (USP)  
**View** Sat & Sun 1-2pm  
Wed 7th Oct 6-7pm  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23293](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23293)

**Gary Potter**  
M 021 953 021  
[gary.potter@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:gary.potter@harcourts.co.nz)  
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**Devonport 78a Lake Road**

2 2 1 1 4

**Kiwi Classic On 931m<sup>2</sup>**  
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• Very tidy 1950s brick home on full size section  
• Large open plan kitchen/living with doors outside to a huge entertaining deck  
• North east facing section for backyard cricket

**Auction**  
On site, 11th October at 11.00am (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23277](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23277)

**Jackie Mark**  
M 021 458 797  
**Jane Hastings**  
M 021 735 263  
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**Devonport 29 Church Street**

3 2 2 2

**One In A Million**  
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**For Sale**  
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**View** by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23233](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23233)

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**Devonport 14/93 Vauxhall Road**

1 1 1 1

**Cheltenham Beach Paradise**  
Charming and comfortable, this one-bedroom apartment is filled with light, warmth and all-day sun. Wake up to the sound of birds, enjoy the upstairs top floor views and sunsets. Located beside the Vauxhall Shops and just across the road from the beautiful Cheltenham Beach to stroll, relax and enjoy.

**For Sale** \$595,000  
**View** as advertised by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22947](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22947)

**Peter Restall**  
M 021 808 808  
[peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz)  
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# Harcourts



**Devonport 79a Stanley Point Road**

4 2 2 1 2

**Sensational City, Sail & Sunset Views**  
Experience the epitome of executive Stanley Point living, showcasing the most outstanding intimate 180-degree inner harbour & CBD views, rivalled only by the clifftop masterpiece home itself, which has recently enjoyed an extensive "no expense spared" renovation, that has yet to be lived in! The question to ask yourself is when can I move in?

**For Sale**  
By Negotiation  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23243](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23243)

**Peter Restall**  
M 021 808 808  
[peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz)  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
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**Bayswater 5 Beresford Street**

4 2 1 1 4

**A True Coastal Classic**  
Absolute waterfront says it all for this unique coastal paradise with your own stairs to the sparkling waters of the Waitemata Harbour. A hidden 979sqm garden of joy, facing north for all day sun and a well-loved home that has been in the family for three generations. Here is your opportunity to secure a rare prime waterfront position CV \$2.35M.

**For Sale** \$2,350,000  
**View** as advertised by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22666](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22666)

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**Waiheke Island 39 Vintage Lane**

3 3 1 1 1

**Te Ara O Te Ra: The Path Of The Sun**  
If the world is a stage then this property most definitely has the 'best seats in the house'. A sweeping, constantly changing vista extends from the Coromandel, across the Hauraki Gulf to the Waitakere ranges; literally one side of the country to the other. Designed by a local architect, this home is warm, inviting and well proportioned. Seize this opportunity to own a slice of heaven on earth.

**For Sale**  
By Negotiation  
**View** by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23269](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23269)

**Karen McMahon**  
M 027 572 9659  
**Greg de Marigny**  
M 021 266 1671  
**Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd**  
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**Waiheke Island 84 Vintage Lane**

3.2ha 1 1 1

**Island Lifestyle & Coastal Opportunity**  
Located on Te Whau peninsula, 84 Vintage Lane is a unique value proposition in that it's possible to walk every inch of the 3.2 hectares of gentle, grassed contours. Here is an almost blank canvas to be enjoyed as it is or personalised by your own creativity. Discreetly positioned, a one bedroom home of generous proportions has intimate water views and legal access to Wharetana Bay.

**For Sale**  
By Negotiation  
**View** by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22993](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22993)

**Karen McMahon**  
M 027 572 9659  
[karen.mcmahon@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:karen.mcmahon@harcourts.co.nz)  
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**Devonport 33 Jubilee Avenue**

4 2 1 1 2

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- The North facing section features an elegant courtyard/patio area with beautiful established gardens.
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**Auction**  
27th September at 11.00am (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
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**Bayswater 2/54 Norwood Road**

4 3 2 2 2

**Brilliant In Bayswater**  
A wonderful family home, orientated for the sun, located in a top street with fantastic indoor-outdoor living, internal access garaging and an abundance of storage! Built over two levels this home offers a generous open plan living and dining area that opens out to a stunning, covered outdoor entertaining space and garden.

**Auction**  
27th September at 10.00am (USP)  
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## Goodbye to charm of Stanley Bay ferry

When I first took to taking the Stanley Bay ferry to work, it was aboard an old tub called the "Glen Rosa".

She had but one crew, the skipper. After we'd chugged our way across the harbour, it was always up to a couple of passengers to make their way to the forward deck to tie her up.

It was a friendly trip where you met and chatted to your neighbours. And at Christmas, there was a party on board for everybody, including kids.

In those days, as it has been until now, it was one of the three spindles – along

with Stanley Bay Park, and Stanley Bay School – that bound this unique corner of Devonport together.

Until now. Regardless of the fact the Stanley Bay ferry service has been running for 120 years, with the slash of a pen it will all end.

So much for forward planning. The demise comes after recently spending millions of dollars building a new shed on the wharf – back-to-front, incidentally – and a new flash pontoon.

The promise of councillor Mr [Chris] Darby that he will get this service back when our financials are in better shape is a far-off, distant dream. So, sadly, it is goodbye to another piece of Devonport's charm.

**Roger Brittenden**

## Ryman activity leads to more stop-sign breaches

My family and I live in Regent St. We are increasingly alarmed by the number of cars that ignore the stop signs at the intersections of Aramoana and Kawerau Aves.

The Ryman site has significantly increased the traffic in this area and, as a flow-on effect, the number of cars parking in the streets near the site has also increased, particularly near the intersections of the streets mentioned above. Regent St traffic has right of way and there are stop signs as you approach Regent St from both ends of Aramoana and Kawerau.

Too many drivers are ignoring the stop signs on Aramoana. I have lost count of the number of times either I or a member of my family has had to take evasive action to prevent a collision. We are just one family in the area, so if it is happening to us on multiple occasions, I predict that others are experiencing the same problem.

We have lived in the area for over 10 years, and the increased incidence of driving through the stop signs has been a direct result of the increased activity at the Ryman site.

We have approached the Ryman site office and also alerted the local community constable and the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board, in the hope that we will get a proactive rather than reactive result.

**Judith Eyton**

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# Harcourts Devonport Tides

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Date	High Tide	Low Tide
Fri Oct 9	12:47am, 1:07pm	6:44am, 7:11pm
Sat Oct 10	1:32am, 1:57pm	7:30am, 8:05pm
Sun Oct 11	2:23am, 2:55pm	8:25am, 9:05pm
Mon Oct 12	3:21am, 3:58pm	9:28am, 10:07pm
Tue Oct 13	4:25am, 5:00pm	10:34am, 11:08pm
Wed Oct 14	5:29am, 5:58pm	11:36am, 12:06pm
Thu Oct 15	6:31am, 6:53pm	12:06am, 12:33pm
Fri Oct 16	7:27am, 7:46pm	1:01am, 1:26pm
Sat Oct 17	8:20am, 8:38pm	1:53am, 2:17pm
Sun Oct 18	9:11am, 9:29pm	2:45am, 3:07pm
Mon Oct 19	10:01am, 10:21pm	3:35am, 3:57pm
Tue Oct 20	10:51am, 11:12pm	4:24am, 4:48pm
Wed Oct 21	11:42am, 5:41pm	5:14am, 5:41pm
Thu Oct 22	12:04am, 12:35pm	6:04am, 6:36pm

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## Sprays the best option for weed control

The use of glyphosate weed spray continues to be a controversial and emotive topic, as evidenced in Sharon Byron-McKay's recent letter (Flagstaff, 25 September).

The "scientists are saying" statements such as "even a small amount of exposure of glyphosate to children is extremely harmful to them" and "neurological disease can be caused by airborne chemicals", are emotive and unsupported.

A balanced and detailed evaluation of glyphosate is available online on Wikipedia.

Most health concerns are about our consuming glyphosate from commercial food crops, as skin absorption from sprays is minimal.

Amongst all mammals, glyphosate is considered to have "low to very low toxicity".

Our conservative World Health Organisation's most recent statements (2016) admit that glyphosate "does not necessarily constitute a health risk", and gives a maximum admissible oral dose of 1mg per kilogram per day! Both European and US environmental protection agencies have now removed the need for cancer cautions from glyphosate labelling.

In terms of skin contact, good studies (Cochrane Library) have found glyphosate to be less irritant than standard dishwashing detergent.

Steam treatment of footpath weeds is expensive, fossil-fuel consuming and only has a short-term effect. We do need effective weed control and every option has its costs. Sprays are currently our best option.

**Rex Browne**

## NZ needs to follow global glyphosate trends

Holiday in New Zealand?

Will I take the grandchildren around New Zealand in the coming summer months with its invisible glyphosate spray on the playgrounds and road verges?

Or wait for Fiji? The Fiji government announced in March 2020 that glyphosate will be banned there – effective January 2021.

Or save for a French holiday? In May 2019, French Agriculture Minister Didier Guillaume announced France would eliminate the use of glyphosate by 2021 – with limited exceptions.

Or Germany – it will ban glyphosate by 2023. (That's probably a bit long to wait for a holiday.)

There's a long list – Austria, Australia, Bahrain, Bermuda, Brazil, India... Many

countries have passed laws, with various restrictions, some on just city areas, some wider, but all are taking place now or in the near future.

But here in Auckland, on November 12th, our council wants to debate it again – despite The Physicians and Scientists for Global Responsibility, a New Zealand charitable trust, calling for a glyphosate ban in 2015. Are our doctors and scientists just conspiracy theorists?

Is glyphosate like Covid? It will only affect a few individuals, probably ones with other health issues, who may get sick anyway. I hope that's not the general thinking here, and I thank the councillors who are fighting on our behalf to keep Devonport spray-free. **Sherry Ede**

## Double standards in playground policy

Council and our local board's approach to the construction of the Devonport Domain and the Windsor Reserve playgrounds reveal a double standard.

A request by iwi not to dig large foundations when upgrading the playground at Devonport Domain will be respected, while there was no intention of listening to objections to digging around tree roots on the historical Windsor Reserve and pouring tonnes of concrete for deep foundations. A tree with non-Maori historical significance almost lost its life to make way for more concrete. It was saved not as a result of requests not to chop it down, but only because of a public and visible yellow ribbon-campaign, which made things awkward.

While iwi have reasons to request respect be shown at Devonport Domain, out of respect for nature the Windsor Reserve playground should have been built lightly on the ground too. It also would not have cost an outrageous \$1.36 million dollars, nor incredulously already need \$33,500 to be earmarked

in next year's budget for maintenance work!

Why were plastic chips used for faux sand next to a beach? Plastic bits that are already loosening in the bottom of the plastic 'rock pools' will likely end up on the real beach and in the sea. It may be recycled plastic, but that does not make its use environmentally friendly. In fact very little about that playground is environmentally friendly. How such a plan got off the drawing board in today's environment is beyond belief.

Now ratepayer money has been spent on a "playful interventions" report which, going by extracts quoted in The Flagstaff (25 September), is complete drivel intended to justify more unnecessary spending. Children are happy with the playground at the Domain. It is in perfectly good, solid condition and, except for the colour, looks little different from the proposed design example shown in The Flagstaff. Just leave it alone. There is no good reason whatsoever to demolish it, nor to disturb the ground it stands on.

**J Leighton**



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**OUT & ABOUT**

**Maria Teape** Community Coordinator

445 9533 | maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

### ECOLOGY HIKOI

**Fri, 9 Oct, 9:15am–1:00am Te Manu Hopukia Marae, 159 Bayswater Ave, Bayswater**  
Charmaine Bailie is an indigenous ecologist and chair of the Kaipātiki Project environmental centre. As the director of Uru Whakaaro Ltd, she and her colleagues enjoy helping people design ecological restoration projects, including fine details like adding epiphytic lichens back to native ecosystems. Please bring good walking shoes, layered clothing, and water for yourself. Visit [#restoringtakarungahauraki](#) on Facebook for more info.

### DEVONPORT HALF-MARATHON

**Sunday 11 October, Windsor Reserve, Devonport**  
The 2020 Harcourts Cooper & Co Devonport Half Marathon is your chance to run or walk among heritage streets, past fabulous beaches and enjoy the stunning views to be had in Auckland's most beautiful suburb. For more info, visit [www.devonporthalfmarathon.co.nz](http://www.devonporthalfmarathon.co.nz).

### DONNA DEAN IN CONCERT

**Monday, 12 October, 8:00pm (\*Alert Level 1 permitting) The Bunker, Takarunga/Mt Victoria**

Donna has been writing, recording and performing for more than three decades, and received outstanding industry recognition, including three New Zealand Tui awards, for her remarkable performance. She will be accompanied by guitarist Warren Mendosa. Tickets: \$20 cash. Please book early on 09 445 2227. For more info visit: [www.devonportfolkmusic.co.nz](http://www.devonportfolkmusic.co.nz).

### BELMONT BAYSWATER KINDERGARTEN 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**Saturday 17 October, 11:30am–2:00pm, 1c Rosyth Avenue, Bayswater**

In 1945, Belmont Bayswater Kindergarten opened its doors to the tamariki and whānau in the community. 75 years on, and close to 200,000 tamariki later, they are having a party and would love for the community to join them celebrating this momentous occasion. Gold-coin donations are welcome.

**Devonport Peninsula Community eNEWS**  
To receive the Devonport Peninsula eNEWS, a monthly email listing of community events, and other community notices, please email us at [maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz](mailto:maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz)

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# Stanley Bay siblings still enjoying their local playground

Brother and sister Jim Palmer and Jean Parley are Stanley Bay stalwarts. They tell Helen Vause about growing up in and around the bay, and these days enjoying the fun and camaraderie the 100-year-old Stanley Bowling & Petanque Club has to offer.



**Still in the neighbourhood... Jim Palmer (81) and Jean Parley (79) at Stanley Bowling & Petanque Club**

Stanley Bay was a paradise for the Palmers back in the 1940s and 50s. They knew all the other kids in the neighbourhood and they whiled away hours on the open parkland or splashing about in the bay. Seventy-plus years later, their playground is the Stanley Bowling & Petanque Club.

Brother and sister Jim Palmer and Jean Parley

shared their stories of life in the neighbourhood, as the bowls club approaches its centenary.

Jim (81) and Jean (79) were born in Pentlands Maternity Hospital in Buchanan St, like many other locals around their age. They grew up in the house their grandfather James built at 4 Stanley Point Rd. These days, Jim lives just up and road and right next door to the bowling club, and Jean and her husband Charles are relishing their last months in the old family house before moving to the Ryman complex later this year.

James Palmer and his family came to Auckland from Fiji. He built the Stanley Bay house

in 1925. His son Clyo married Janet Anderson, whose family had come from Norfolk Island, and their first child, Jim, was born in 1939, followed by baby Jean in 1942.

Their earliest shared memory is going to a preschool group at St Augustine's Church where Jim recalls getting sick on green jelly.

At Stanley Bay School, when she arrived, Jean soon became known as "Jimmy Palmer's little sister," she recalls with a grin. "But I wasn't in his shadow – we always did our own thing and knocked about with our own friends."

Over the road from their place was the wharf going way out into the harbour from the middle



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of the bay. It was big by anyone's standards. Jim says it was half a mile long, and it certainly played a large part in the lives of local kids, including the Palmers.

"You did your distance swimming against it," says Jim. "To do your 220 yards, say, you'd go out to a certain point and back for each distance. As we got better we could go further and further." After glancing at each other for a quick check, Jean and Jim agree they can't remember not being able to swim, even as very young kids.

They were sporty kids, but Jean does remember being disappointed she was never encouraged to seriously pursue swimming.

"I think it's just what our family did," says Jim. "Dad was a surfer at Piha back then and he must have made sure we were okay in the water. I remember him making home-made life jackets for us out of all sorts of stuff."

The two of them were, of course, early wharf-jumpers in a now long-running tradition: not only did they jump, but they laugh at memories of daring to plunge right into the wake of departing ferries. That long-gone wharf was always a busy place and they recall streams of dock workers disembarking after coming across from the city.

There were other distractions too. Just out the back door was the big local park and rough ground beyond, along with a dump area where kids weren't really meant to venture and where a fire seemed always to be smouldering.

"Stay away from that fire" was what we were told, says Jean. "But I guess I gave away where I had been playing when I got home one day with very blistered hands."

There was a tunnel, too, for pumping mud to the ground being reclaimed at the time. When the tunnel wasn't in use, kids could easily run right through it, giving their parents another few grey hairs.

"But it was pretty safe for kids around here really, and we just got out and did our own thing, playing with other kids," says Jean.

They spread their wings from Stanley Bay as one after the other they went to Takapuna

Grammar School (TGS), although much of their after-school life still revolved around the big local park behind their house.

"After school, it was a question of what will we play when we get down to the park," says Jim. "There were tennis courts too, and I can remember getting off that school bus and running like hell so we could be first there to grab a court." And by his own recall, young Jim could run as fast as the best of them.

*"This little club has given so much more to our community than a bunch of townhouses ever could have if we'd lost this land."*

But Hockey was to be Jim's thing – and ultimately he won a place in New Zealand's 1968 Olympic team.

It all started, he says, because the grounds-maintenance man down at the park was keen on hockey and wanted to teach all the kids to play. So hockey became their game, says Jim. By the fourth form at TGS, Jim was one of the kids keen enough to pull together a school team: "Two thirds of the team were from Stanley Bay," he laughs.

Jim went on to play more than 100 games for Auckland, and travelled overseas with the national team before making it to the summer Olympics in Mexico. Drawing him on his sporting prowess prompts a bashful mutter and calls for many nudges from his sister. But he does agree, he could run pretty fast.

Decades later, at the bowling club, running doesn't much come into it, but the commitment to his sport does. He bought the house next to the club in 1989 and sometimes ventured over to give a hand with the painting and maintenance, though he wasn't a bowler at the time.

But a few years later, when he heard the

place was faced with collapse due to dwindling member numbers and money, Jim joined up and became involved in the neighbourhood campaign to get people along.

Jean joined too, but not to play bowls like her brother, who was enthusiastically embracing his new sport with a handful of other bowlers. "I couldn't come any further back in the field than sixth, he laughs.

Jean was drawn to petanque – as well as the club camaraderie – and luckily someone else turned up who knew all about that game. But first the ground, or the terrain, as it's known in petanque, had to be readied before serious play could begin. And that called for bucketloads of enthusiasm.

With husband Charles and other members, she was in the crew who put hours of hard labour into wheelbarrowing limestone and the other materials that make for a good terrain. Ever since those days, the Parleys between them have taken responsibility for maintaining their terrain, keeping it in good shape for play.

Jean turned out to be pretty good at petanque and the game has taken her – and Charles and teammates – way beyond Stanley Bay on many occasions, to win or finish very well in senior competition around the Pacific.

"Being over 60, at that age we felt very lucky to find a goal and a competition that would add so much to our lives. It's a unisex game, so it's something we can do together and the petanque world is a very vibrant community. Not only have we done well, but the game has really widened our world. We've met so many people playing petanque and been to so many places."

Celebrating the club and its history is natural for the Palmers. It's been a happy place for them and their friends and fellow members. It's the small club with a big heart, they say.

"It's been just wonderful," says Jim. "The bowls, the people, the Friday-night gatherings, the quiz nights and everything else that happens here.

"This little club has given so much more to our community than a bunch of townhouses ever could have if we'd lost this land."

# National

## Simon Watts

### North Shore

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# Native plantings commemorate Vauxhall School's centenary

Vauxhall School is planting more than 300 native trees in its grounds to mark its centenary year. Work is well underway on a garden designed by Shaun Keane, whose daughter Charlie is the fourth generation of her family to attend the school.

Vauxhall's environmental lead teacher, Martin Laurence, conceived the tree-planting legacy project as one that would offer children learning experiences while being immersed in an evolving natural environment.

"Once the garden is finished, the reward will be knowing that many generations of the Vauxhall School community can enjoy this garden to relax, learn and work together whilst watching it grow," Laurence said.

Parents had contributed to its creation, with student Salome Richter coming up with the garden's name – 'He Ngahere Puāwai' – from the saying: Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai (Nurture the seed and it will blossom).

For Keane, owner of local company Scape-tech Landscaping, his personal connection with the school dates back to his grandfather Kenneth Williams. His mother, Cherrie Williams, also attended. Daughter Charlie is in Year 3.

Responding to Laurence's vision for the garden, Keane volunteered to design a plan, choosing native plants that will flourish in the area. Other parents, and past and present students, pitched in with labour and machinery. Among them was Stu Higgins, from arborist and tree-service company A1 Sure Services, who donated mulch and cleared the garden area

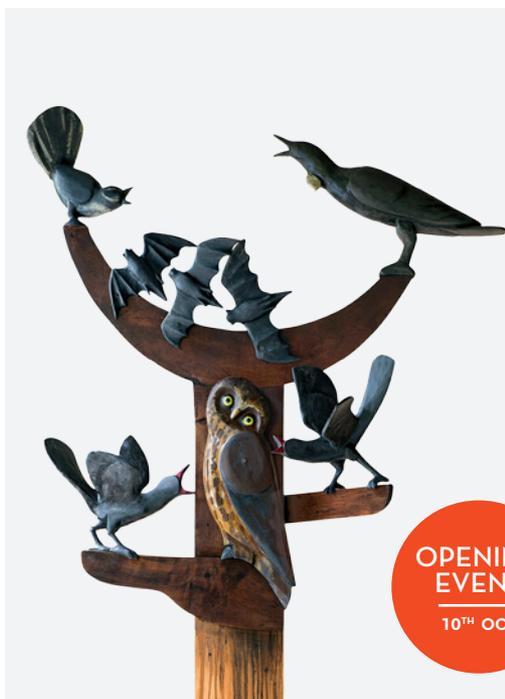


**Three generations... garden designer and former Vauxhall School pupil Shaun Keane with his mother Cherrie Williams, who also attended the school, and daughter Charlie, currently in Year 3**

for planting to begin.

"It has been fun and engaging working with others in the community and sharing the history and stories of Vauxhall School on the way," Laurence said.

The Vauxhall Centennial Native Garden will be officially opened next month as part of a day of celebrations. Anyone wishing to attend can register at <https://www.vauxhall.school.nz/>.



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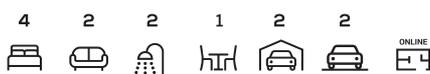
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**AUCTION**

10:00am 15 Oct 2020 at Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna (unless sold prior)

**VIEWING**

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# DEVONPORT

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Sat/Sun 1:00-1:45pm  
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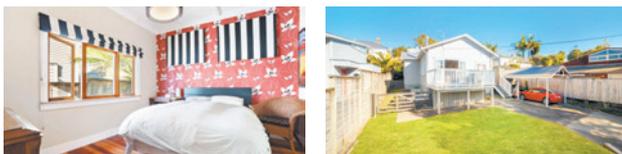
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**DEVONPORT 25 RUTLAND ROAD**

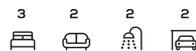


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This charming early 1900's weatherboard home is positioned at the end of a cul de sac just off Devonport's prime waterfront. Set over two levels on its own easy-care freehold site of 304m<sup>2</sup>, this is a unique property full of character and one prized for both its location and views. Opportunity to add value here. Walk to village and ferry.

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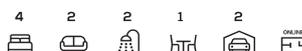
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# Rose adds to her speech-cup collection

Belmont Intermediate Year 7 student Rose Judson won the school's speech contest last month with her topic 'Embarrassment'.

"I have noticed that as kids get older, they get more embarrassed. I have a teenage sister and I have noticed that she gets embarrassed by everything," laughs Rose.

"I also thought it was very relevant to speech-performance time, as lots of kids feel really embarrassed at performing speeches. But I don't, I love them."

Rose had a few ideas for her speech topic this year. One was the secrets of hypnosis. Rose is interested in the different ways people's brains work and she likes to make speeches on unexpected subjects.

She was nervous when writing her speech, and kept doubting that it was written well enough. But when she presented it, the jitters evaporated, excitement took over and she enjoyed speaking in front of the audience.

Rose has been in three other speech competitions at Mangawhai Beach School, where she used to be a student. Her topics were 'Joan Jett', 'Do plants have feelings?' and 'Why do we find some animals cute and others disgusting?'.

She won two speech contests against Wellsford, and received the Mangawhai Beach School speech cup twice.

Her advice for other students is not to



**Nothing to be embarrassed about... 11-year-old Rose Judson confidently presented her winning speech at Belmont Intermediate**

be embarrassed about speaking in front of an audience.

"Speech-writing is an awesome time to

write what you want to say, express your passion and have lots of people hear it. So

my advice is to take a risk and go for it."

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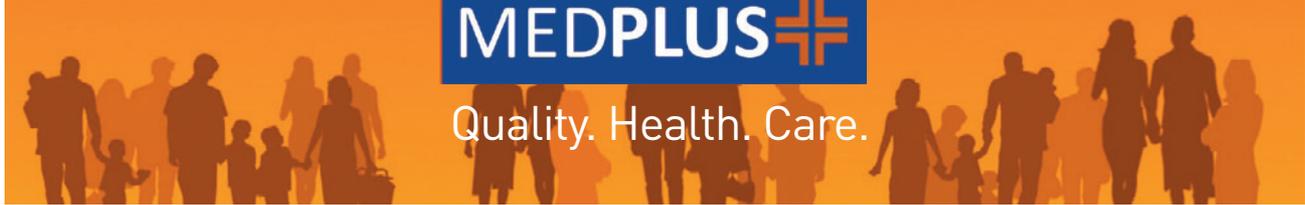
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# adviceHQ helps borrowers bridge the finance gap

The growing divide between the Reserve Bank's relaxation of monetary policy and the big banks' tightening of lending criteria is making it more difficult for borrowers to get traditional financing, however this opens up other opportunities for non-bank lenders to fill the gap in the market, according to David Green, Director of adviceHQ, a Takapuna-based mortgage advisory firm.

"When advising on lending, adviceHQ considers the big banks, but with the current market conditions a lot of people seeking financing are ineligible," says Green, who has a business degree in accounting and finance from Massey University and became a Chartered Accountant while working at Deloitte.

Recently, the Reserve Bank removed loan-to-value criteria to stimulate the economy, but the big banks are becoming increasingly cautious with their stringent application processes and credit policies.

This has resulted in some borrowers who six months ago would have had loans approved now struggling to obtain adequate financing, Green says.

"One of our clients could only get finance for \$1 million from a main bank which was just short of the amount required.

"We ended up obtaining \$1.1 million dollars from a non-bank lender at a rate only 0.5 per cent above the main bank's already low rate," Green says.

According to Green, non-bank lenders have resilient business models which have survived recent financial crises and include highly reputable publicly traded entities, private equity firms and "rich-lister backed" lending facilities.

adviceHQ's client base ranges from first-home buyers, purchasing property, to high-net-worth individuals who require help



structuring their finance due to the unique complexities of their situations.

"We are also finding returning Kiwis and new residents needing help when they arrive, because overseas income is sometimes difficult to prove mortgage serviceability and due to other complexities related to individual financial circumstances.

"Complex financial circumstances are more of the norm these days," says Green.

Green started adviceHQ two years ago as Mortgage Pro, but soon realised the value of his service was providing advice, a mortgage was just part of the process and most clients needed help planning their financial future and connecting with industry professionals. He quickly pivoted his business model and renamed it to

adviceHQ.

"Whether you are a first-home buyer or an experienced professional in your chosen field, the current market conditions in New Zealand are tricky to work through and really require independent financial advice," says Green, who is a long time North Shore resident and president of the Castor Bay Ratepayers & Residents Association.

"I come from the finance side of banking, not the sales side, so I am in a unique position to give my clients the right kind of advice for their circumstances, getting them the financing they require and also connecting them with accountants, lawyers, insurance and wealth advisers and other professionals as required."

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## Hauraki youngster heads to US for surgery

Community donations are helping Hauraki four-year-old Lydia Golding travel to Florida with her family for much-needed surgery.

Lydia was born with a rare non-hereditary birth defect, proximal femoral focal deficiency. The condition has left her with an unfurled hip and shortened right leg.

Earlier this year, Lydia's mother Lauren Golding discovered an alternative surgery to improve her daughter's hip and lengthen her leg. The lengthening surgery is Lydia's only hope of ever having her two feet on the ground and walking.

To get her to the Paley Institute in Florida, her family has faced rising airline ticket prices, isolation, accommodation and medication costs on top of Lydia's \$300,000 surgery.

Florida has been badly hit by Covid-19, with 700,000 confirmed cases, but Lydia's surgery cannot be delayed any longer.

"It's definitely not the best time to be travelling," says Golding. "I think the part that scares me the most is the stopovers in airports. But I know once we are there, we can isolate ourselves."

Prices of flights have doubled because of Covid-19.

The family, including Golding's husband and one-year-old daughter Rose, had previously booked tickets with United Airlines, sitting on \$4000-worth before the airline cancelled its New Zealand flights.

Now the same journey is costing \$7500. They are hoping to get an exemption from proposed isolation costs when they return home to Auckland.

"I've always said I would love to go live in the States for a year. But I did not think it would be under these circumstances or that we would have to isolate," says Golding.

Lydia will need five surgeries before she is 16.

Seeking help from the community, the family has raised \$72,400 towards a \$500,000 goal.

"We have been so thankful for the people who have generously donated to help Lydia. I can't believe how much support we have received and it has really blown me away," says Golding.

"Lydia has an absolute heart of gold, an infectious smile, and melts people's hearts.

"Donations will go towards achieving the very best outcome for our brave little girl, to fulfil her dream of walking with her own two feet."

**Four-year-old Lydia Golding, who needs surgery to correct a birth defect, can still enjoy playtime (right). She has a lifetime collection of prosthetic lower legs (below), but the first of five operations will seek to have her walking with two feet on the ground.**



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No doubt this year has been challenging, and the most recent Harbour Bridge situation has highlighted the importance of a resilient ferry service.

To ease the challenges for people travelling from and to the North Shore, caused by damage to Auckland's Harbour Bridge in the last few weeks, we were pleased to respond quickly and bring back 30-minute off-peak sailings on the Devonport route - almost doubling the frequency of the service throughout the day.

After initially sharing this would be a temporary measure, I am pleased to share the additional services we have provided for Devonport will remain in place for the next few months as we head into summer.

The increased frequency means the Devonport community will enjoy services running at a 30-minute frequency from 5:45am to 12:00am on weekdays. This is in addition to the current 15-minute frequency available from 7:30am to 8:30am during the peak commute hour on weekdays.

The 30-minute timetable will run throughout the weekends as well.

With the Harbour Bridge situation vulnerable, catching a ferry is a great option to avoid congestion and take cars off the roads.

Thank you to the Devonport community for being patient while we responded to the increased demand, and for being kind to our crew who have done an incredible job, stepping up to yet another challenge in 2020.

Now is a great time to take advantage of the weather getting warmer and longer days, with sailing across the Waitematā Harbour a great way to get to and from the CBD.

**See you on the water.**

**Mike Horne**  
Fullers360 CEO

**Looking Back**

# 20 years ago from the Flagstaff files

- Reports of robberies, stand-over tactics and fights at the Ngataranga Skateboard Park spark the formation of a working party to discuss safety issues at the park.
- Three Depot-based artists – John Currin, Adrian Whatford and Jeff Thomas – make a short film called *Butterboy*.
- The Depot Artspace and the Te Whare Rangimare Trust in Bayswater win North Shore Community and Social Services Awards.
- Devonport Primary School netball coach Sharon Attwood wins the Most Valuable Coach award for all sports in the North Harbour region. She was selected ahead of 97 other nominees.
- A rogue pit bull is on the loose after two dogs in a car attacked police when they stopped the vehicle following a low-speed chase.



**Flagstaff interview subject...  
paediatrician Innes Asher**

Devonport Community Constable Ces Ross trawled the neighbourhood with dogfood, trying to lure the pit bull out.

- Tenants continue to vacate Devonport Wharf, with Woodstock the latest to exit the building.
- The Devonport tramline, which ran along the waterfront from Victoria Rd to Torpedo Bay, is recalled by Rod Cornelius in his Ramblings column.
- The annual tradition of former Devonport Yacht Club commodores meeting for a night of tall stories and good food continues with eight of 16 former commodores meeting up. They include: Alan Kemp, Wayne Paterson, Gus Lynch, Bo Wattam, Chris Leech, Ken Curnow, Peter Parsonson, Brian Holmes and Tony Willis.
- Planning is in progress for The 2001 Devonport Arts Festival, to include a festival opening
- Paediatrician Innes Asher is the Flagstaff interview subject.

## Covid tracer booklets available in Devonport

Covid-19 tracer paper booklets are now available in Devonport for those without smartphones and unable to use the Covid-19 tracer app.

The booklets are being distributed at Devonport Library and Devonport Community House. They are targeted at senior citizens groups and others, who may not have access to new technology. Devonport Business Improvement District Manager Shauly Van Baaren said: "There are members of our community who do not have a mobile phone, choose not to use a smartphone or don't like the idea of using the tracer app.

The new Covid-19 tracer booklet is another tool available to allow the public to comfortably and easily track their movements."

People can use the booklets to keep track of where they have been and who they have seen. Contact tracing is intended to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in New Zealand. If you are using the booklet, the government recommends signing contact-tracing registers when visiting shops.



**Tracing help... Nat Milnes, who runs the school-holiday programme at Devonport Community House, displays the new Covid-19 booklets**

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**THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

**NAVY BASE TAKES ON COVID-19 WORKLOAD**

With 32 Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities (MIQFs) to administer and 12 ports to monitor, the New Zealand Defence Force regularly rotates between 800 and 900 personnel throughout New Zealand as part of the All Of Government (AOG) response to Covid-19.

For Devonport Naval Base, this means providing personnel for the 18 hotels used for MIQFs across Auckland, as well as assisting NZ Customs at Auckland and Whangarei ports.

The Base's involvement came early. In February, its training facility at Whangaparaoa Peninsula - Tamaki Leadership Centre - became New Zealand's first quarantine facility in modern times, welcoming 157 returnees from Wuhan, China, followed by a smaller number of returnees from the cruise ship Diamond Princess.

Following the closure of New Zealand's borders in March, the Navy Base has steadily supported the staffing of MIQFs in Auckland. Personnel are assigned for tasking and their roles are administrative, handling queries and issues, coordinating guest requirements and supervising AOG evolutions. Alongside Navy personnel are nurses, DHB staff,



security, NZ Police, aviation security, hotel staff, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, and Ministry of Health representatives.

Chief Petty Officer Weapon Technician Greg Bishell has been involved in the Auckland MIQFs since April, being among one of the first Navy personnel to help establish, administer and ultimately manage them.

The Navy is well placed for this tasking, he says. "On ships, we're confined to limited spaces for long periods of time. We go away on deployment a lot and leave our families.

I've spent approximately 3,500 days at sea. Sailors have techniques for coping with separation anxiety and stress. We have courageous conversations and pply a lot of humour. We can relate to what the returnees are going through and showing a bit of empathy toward the returnees in hotels goes a long way."

He is glad he can help returning citizens and residents. "We all signed on the dotted line to help our country," he says. "It's a very busy job, but if you care about people, it's easy."

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

**Congratulations? Thanks? Problems? Complaints?**  
DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE TEL 445 5002



## America's Cup preparations

Food trucks, bike racks, water stations, extra seating and toilets will be installed on Maungauika during America's Cup racing.

Media and a film crew will be housed in one of the existing buildings on the maunga.

Tents and marquees, and possibly a pop-up stage for kapa haka groups, will also be installed, as thousands of spectators are expected to converge on Maungauika, which is ideally positioned to view the racing.

The America's Cup events are scheduled over 37 days:

- Christmas Cup and America's Cup World Series, 17-20 December
- Challenger series, 15-22 February
- America's Cup, 6-21 March.

An operations manual for the event series will include traffic management, waste management, and health-and-safety plans, says a resource consent lodged with Auckland Council by the Tupuna Maunga Authority (TMA).

No public notification has been sought as the effects of the event will be minor, according to the TMA.

No earthworks are proposed on the site. Any damage to the grass from foot traffic will be remediated after the racing is over.

## Croquet cup winners



Peter Burt (left), won the intermediate division and Greg Hall the senior division of the North Shore Croquet Club's Winter Tournament. The event was held over two months

and interrupted by the second Auckland lockdown. The tournament marks a return to active competition, following refurbishment of the club's lawns.



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# Devonport team's a dream!

In the final countdown to the opening of the care centre at William Sanders Retirement Village at the end of September, the team were steadily growing and preparing to welcome the very first residents.

Village Manager Murray Bain, who has been based at Ryman Healthcare's Ngataranga Road village since April 2019, says he is thrilled with the team members on board.

"We have got fantastic people with a huge amount of experience behind them, many of them have worked for Ryman for a long time.

"Everyone is ready to rise to the challenge of fulfilling the Ryman purpose of 'good enough for mum and dad'. I'm confident this team will deliver on that promise," he says.

Heading the care team is Clinical Manager Satbir Kaur, who cemented her passion for aged care after working at Ryman's Bert Sutcliffe village in Birkenhead.

Satbir says the Ryman term 'good enough for mum and dad' is not just a nice quote.



William Sanders Retirement Village team has wow factor

"We really have to make it work for us and our residents." For that reason, Satbir looks for particular qualities in her team members. "We want that person where you can feel the difference when they're in the room.

"You can always provide more skills and training and education, but kindness and empathy, a caring and compassionate nature, that needs to be there already."

Joining Satbir in the care team will be Silva

Evangelista and Girley Pingol, who will be unit coordinators for the 77 serviced apartments, 38-room resthome, 38-room hospital and 36-room dementia care centre.

Both of them met in 2011 while working as caregivers at Ryman's Orewa village and have risen through the ranks since then, often using their experience to help others to orient themselves in their roles.

"I'm really excited for both of us," says Girley,

who has teamed up with Satbir previously too. "Everyone is so good and I'm really looking forward to all the wonderful things we're going to be able to provide for our residents."

Aidan Mills, the new Resident Services Manager, was attracted to the role having previously worked for an event management company organising corporate events for Ryman. From that he saw for himself how the company operated.

"Then there was the fact my mother-in-law works at Evelyn Page as a housekeeper and it

was the first job where she felt really valued.

"But also my Nana moved into Kiri Te Kanawa in Gisborne aged 96 and the attention to detail given to her care really impressed me.

"So there was nowhere else I wanted to work really. Now I want to do what I can to enhance the lives of residents while also helping the team members succeed in their roles."

And last, but by no means least, there's Con van Niekerk, who is the first person to greet people as they arrive at reception.

Con, who has just completed the final exam of her law degree, brings great administrative experience having worked part time at Edmund Hillary in Remuera and in the Ryman regional office assisting in human resources before that.

In September the team gathered for a week-long intensive training session covering all aspects of village life.

This ranged from health and safety processes and technology systems to falls management, clinical guidelines and Ryman's new dementia model of care.



*Artist impression*

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**Jacobs runs fastest leg in road relay to win national title**

Hauraki runner Lucy Jacobs was part of the North Harbour Bays team that won the national senior women's road relay title last weekend. The club last held the title in 2017, and has won it five times in eight years.

Harbour was nearly six-and-a-half minutes clear of last year's champions, Wellington Harriers, at the event held in Feilding. The team finished the race in 4:25:05.

Jacobs, a university sports science graduate who attended Takapuna Grammar School, completed the fastest sixth leg, of the race in a time of 36:57.

Other team members were Anneke Grogan, Hayley Green, Brigid Dennehy, Sabina Piras and Annika Pfitzinger, with captain Green saying: "We're just so happy to be here today."

"We were unsure if we would be able to compete until a few weeks ago, and we had an extra lockdown to train through. But the team stayed strong and trained hard through the second lockdown. We are happy to take the title."

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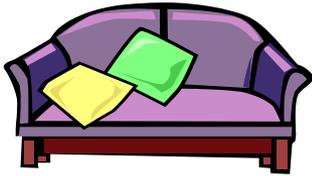

**Walking the talk down memory lane**

Take a walk down memory lane – specifically Church St – in a filmed exploration of the area, made for the Devonport Museum.

In the film, long-time local Bob Keely talks about the street's early history, its homes, parks and shops.

Admission to the commissioned piece, made by local film-maker Peter Michel, working with writer Tim McBride, is by koha. It is being shown daily until Sunday 11 October, at the museum, 33a Vauxhall Rd. See it in weekday sessions from 10am, or at weekends from noon. Groups larger than 15 need to book.

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Dennis Hale & Nathan Hale

# Tui the winners from John's bird-box brainwave

Over Covid-19 lockdown, Devonport resident John Paul picked up some scrap wood from his yard and decided to build his own tui feeder.

Last week, he shared his design at the Claystore and conducted a workshop for people interested in building their own tui feeders.

"It's great coming down to the Claystore and getting together to make these bird feeders," he said. "Everyone is so helpful and it gives us all something to do."

Greg Rawlinson, George Crook and Maria Murphy made and took home their own feeders to entice more tui to visit their gardens this spring.

Restoring Takarunga Hauraki coordinator Lance Cablk said he has seen quite a few tui out as they settle into their nesting season.



**One out of the bird-box... John Paul (right) helping Maria Murphy work on a tui feeder at the Claystore workshop. Below left: Paul with a completed feeder, made from scrap wood.**



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# Trust is key to success for European car specialist Burgers Motor Works

Building trust via the integrity of its expertise and transparency of operation are the drivers of success for Burgers Motor Works owner Jamie McDonald.

“Trust is everything for us. That’s trust in our team’s expertise and trust in our processes,” McDonald says.

Burgers Motor Works, located on Archers Rd Wairau, specialises in the service and repair of the big four European brands – BMW, Audi, VW and Mercedes – and prides itself on the fact that McDonald and six of his seven employees are dealer-trained.

“I did my apprenticeship at the old Jerry Clayton BMW dealership in Takapuna, and I typically hire mechanics with extensive training and experience from BMW, AUDI, VW and Mercedes dealerships,” McDonald says.

“With our dealer trained team, we pride ourselves as experts.”

McDonald also believes in absolute transparency over work done at Burgers Motor Works. “We take photos of any issues we find and all significant measurements and diagnostics we take, which keeps our customers informed of what is going on with their car at any given time and builds trust.”

McDonald says he looks to build trust first and make money second.

“A lot of people come to us because they are fed up with paying a premium for maintenance done on an ageing car and want a reliable and cost-effective alternative.

“Most people come to us after their dealer warranty has finished. So most of our customers have cars that are five-six years old, when people need maintenance options that are reasonable,” he says.

Customers also appreciate the seven courtesy cars available for their use while cars are in the workshop.

Burgers Motor Works does a lot of mechanical warranty work for insurance companies. It has an extensive network of mechanical experts and parts specialists and can offer its customers the choice of genuine parts or OEM / aftermarket parts.

“We have a European-parts seller onsite so the potential wait time for parts is reduced considerably and we can get you back on the road as fast as possible,” McDonald says.

“Our workshop is well equipped with the latest diagnostics equipment and we have



a strong network of experts in the trade so there’s very little we can’t handle.”

McDonald, who grew up in Birkenhead, went to Rosmini College and studied Business at Massey University, bought Burgers Motor Works from founder Burgers Oosthuizen in December 2017, after selling a successful trucking company he built up with his father. “After selling the trucking business, I did a brief stint in commercial real estate, but wanted to follow my passion for the motor trade. When I came across Burgers Motor Works it ticked a lot of boxes for me.”

McDonald is also a former champion Sprint Car racer, and still races on weekends. He has been successful over the years, including winning the New Zealand Championship in 2007.

McDonald believes Burgers Motor Works’ transparent approach combined with expertise from dealer-trained mechanics sets it apart from other mechanic shops. “Sometimes the root cause of a problem has an inexpensive fix, but if you don’t know what to look for you can end up replacing the wrong part,” he says.

“We know what to look for!”



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# Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



# Grammar

OCT 9, 2020

## International Baccalaureate Art Exhibition



September saw the annual International Baccalaureate (IB) Art Exhibition, which is the culmination of nearly two years of work for Visual Arts students. Students have to display their artworks in a gallery setting and are marked on presentation and curatorial rationale, as well as the quality of their work.

This year, the exhibition was held in the historic Tower Room, which has been beautifully renovated in the recent building upgrade. The high ceilings and stained-glass windows provided an excellent backdrop to the students' work.

Hannah Judd explains that the "exhibition is a required part of the IB Visual Arts course that I found immeasurably beneficial and fulfilling to complete, as it allows us to use our art to explore topics we feel passionate about. This freedom of expression is unique to the IB art course and has allowed me to explore myself and the world around me whilst learning and creating. My art explored the role of habits within the human condition. Completing this work became challenging within the numerous lockdowns as we didn't have access to special equipment at the school. Although challenging, these circumstances pushed us to think creatively, overcome obstacles and work with the resources we had available to us."

Staff and students visited the exhibition



and were very impressed with the depth of thinking that the students' work displayed. For these creative students, the opportunity to exhibit their work was unique.

"Having the opportunity to exhibit my work for the entire school community to see was an amazing experience. For two years of hard work to be appreciated by staff and students is something that I am very grateful for, and I am so proud of everyone involved in the exhibition this year," says Hannah.

Leo Lin adds: "It's has been rewarding to receive so many positive reactions from students and teachers, for the hours of brainstorming, painting and creating we've been through".



Staff and students visited the exhibition

## A new colourful character around the village



Onlookers were drawn to Windsor Reserve last weekend, as Auckland graffiti and mural artist Jonny 4Higher began spray-painting a new retro caravan to serve as an information centre to promote Devonport.

He painted a landscape of Cheltenham Beach, on the front of the renovated and refitted caravan.

It will be sited inside the Devonport ferry building, and be taken to different community events and festivals. Children are invited to suggest a name for the caravan. Its purchase and refit is a Devonport Business Association project funded by Lotto New Zealand and Devonport Rotary.





# What's going on!

## ARTWEEK

AUCKLAND. OCT 10-18. ARTWEEK.CO.NZ

October is going to be an exciting month in the Village! We have officially 'sprung forward' into Spring! The days are getting longer, the weather a bit warmer, children are on school break this week and there are plenty of opportunities to fill your days and evenings with amazing activities, exhibitions and events taking place in the Village.

This past weekend, the Devonport Business Association (DBA), in partnership with the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board and Devonport Rotary Club, rolled out our beautiful new, 13-foot, 1974 lightweight caravan for public debut! People gathered to watch as

award-winning street artist, Jonny 4Higher, hand-painted a distinctly Devonport scene with a hip, yet heritage feel. The caravan will be wheeled into its new home inside the Devonport ferry terminal mid-month.

Children who visited over the weekend were encouraged to "Name Our Caravan"! This cool contest, for children 12 and under, will remain open online on the Devonport Village Facebook page until the end of the month. Entries will be judged by a panel of representatives from the various organisations who, together, made the caravan a reality. The winning name will be announced at

an official Caravan Opening.

Next up is Artweek Auckland, a citywide festival that celebrates our city's visual arts! On during 10th-18th October, Devonport is always a popular Artweek destination for artists, lovers of art and creatives alike. Many of our local artists, galleries, museums and theatres participate, showcasing beautifully curated, thought-provoking and inspiring exhibitions and showings, some of which are outlined below.

For a list of what's happening in Devonport Village this Artweek, visit [Devonport.co.nz/](http://Devonport.co.nz/) events.

### Fabulous Florals at The Flagstaff Gallery & Framing

This fabulous exhibition can be viewed Monday to Saturday between 10am and 5pm and on Sundays from 11am to 4pm. On Saturday 10th October, at 2pm, watch artist Amber Emm in action as she creates one of her stunning florals, in-gallery!

Then on Tuesday, 13th October you have the opportunity to create your own *Inspired Bouquet* in-gallery, in collaboration with Devonport Flowers. Tickets for the *Inspired Bouquet* event are on sale now – email [gallery@flagstaff.nz](mailto:gallery@flagstaff.nz) for details.

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### Operation Grapple at The Torpedo Bay Navy Museum

This portrait exhibition by Denise Baynam tells the story of "Operation Grapple" through the words of the veterans who were there. Admission is free and it can be viewed daily from 10am to 5pm. On now until 11th December. Please note the exhibition includes sensitive themes and may not be suitable for young children.

**64 King Edward Parade, Devonport**  
[www.navymuseum.co.nz](http://www.navymuseum.co.nz)



### Sculpture Trail with Art by the Sea

As a fundraiser for Mike King's "I Am Hope" trust, local gallery Art by the Sea, has carefully curated stunning sculptures up to 3 metres tall! On display in Milford Centre from 10th to 18th October, all Art by the Sea sculptures on display are for sale.

**30 King Edward Parade, Devonport**  
[www.artbythesea.co.nz](http://www.artbythesea.co.nz)



### Special Artweek Showings at The Vic Theatre

The Vic Theatre is hosting a variety of special art films as part of this year's Auckland Artweek. Take in *Faces Places*, a film by Agnes Varda and JR, *Frida. Viva la Vida*, and *House of Cardin* at select showtimes from 10th to 18th October. For film details, viewing times and other films at The Vic, visit their website.

**48 Victoria Road, Devonport**  
[www.thevic.co.nz](http://www.thevic.co.nz)



### Special Artweek Showings at Depot Artspace

*Devonport: Architecture of Land & Sea*, is the latest creation by artist Martin Law and is on exhibition NOW at Depot Artspace. Martin's paintings are an exquisite, almost microscopically observed tribute to Devonport, its history, environment and architecture. You don't want to miss out – it is a truly magnificent depiction of our community AND it is on only until 14 October!

**28 Clarence Street, Devonport**  
[www.depotartspace.co.nz](http://www.depotartspace.co.nz)



Typically run in association with Artweek Auckland, this year's Friday after Five Street Party is scheduled for Friday 4th December. Back for its third year, we will again close off Clarence Street, roll out an incredible entertainment line-up and serve up a variety of tasty food and treats from local vendors. We will have fabulous art activations, fantastic street games, mesmerising circus-like performers, a cool mobile photobooth and more!

This is an amazing evening of fun, food and festivities for all ages – you do not want to miss out! Mark your calendar, come on down and join us as we kick off our Devonport summer celebrations.

I look forward to seeing you all in the Village this month!

**Shaulyn van Baaren**  
BID Manager, Devonport Business Association

# Heritage classrooms given new lease of life



**Fluid spaces... Left: Stanley Bay School principal Lucy Naylor in the office foyer. Right: Year 3 students Blake Darragh (left) and Hugo Neville-Wilson, and Year 4s Lily Osterfgard (left) and Saoirse Harrington, in one of the brightly made-over classrooms.**

The old and the new have combined successfully at Stanley Bay School, into classrooms students will be happy to return to after the holidays.

"I do feel like we're giving them the learning environment they deserve," principal Lucy Naylor told the Flagstaff.

A new look and layout inside the school – which dates to 1909 – has been a work in progress, but building upgrades are now finished. These maintain heritage features but improve acoustics, lighting and ventilation and make better use of space.

"We had to balance using the beautiful historic building, which is so much part of the school, with creating modern, fluid learning spaces," said Naylor. "To me when you walk in here it's got soul."

Classrooms have been opened up with sliding doors and more glass. Single wooden doors have been replaced with clear double ones, allowing views into classrooms. Dark corridors and cloakrooms are now well lit and instead of being little-used space, they now double as "breakout" study areas, providing flexible learning spaces.

When summer arrives, the ability to open bifold doors to wooden decking, to enable learning to easily spill outdoors from the classroom, will be particularly welcome.

Naylor, who became the school's principal in 2017, said the improvements are part of a five-year property plan. The small school

is showing growth in its entry years and currently has a roll of 245. "Now we've got great spaces to deliver the curriculum."

The modernisation project cost \$360,000. Naylor said it wasn't the open-plan education concept that dated to the 1970s and 1980s, but rather a focus on variable use of space.

Glass slider doors between classrooms meant they could be shut off as well as opened up. This helped accommodate both independent and collaborative learning across year levels. Furniture was also designed to suit the different learning styles of students and included tall tables, kneeling tables and wobble stools.

"If they're a fidgeter and they know they can do their writing at a tall table, then they can," said Naylor. "If they know they are better at doing maths in a group, with a buddy around them, then they can join a group."

Children were sometimes not given enough credit for making their own good choices, she said. A flexible learning environment helped with this, and to future-proof them for the adult world, where a mix of work models was becoming more common.

Naylor said improved special-needs access was still being attended to. The next focus, in 2021, would be outdoors, with seating, decks and paving in for some attention, using money from a school investment package from the Government. This would help create more outdoor learning areas.



**Updated... Year 4's Julie Lancelot and fellow pupils. Pinboards on the walls not only display work, but help with acoustics.**

# Tsunami sirens silent in Devonport for another five years

When tsunami sirens sounded in a test along parts of Auckland's coastline late last month, the North Shore was silent. New sirens at Orewa were among those tested, but any for Devonport will only be considered as part of a long-term study.

Around 40 sirens are in place around Auckland, most of which were installed by the former Waitakere and Rodney District Councils. The need to fill gaps in the network will be assessed after modelling of risk by Auckland Council,

which is midway through a 10-year project.

"This work will help us in deciding whether tsunami sirens are appropriate for the rest of our coastal communities, such as Devonport," said the principal science adviser for Auckland Emergency Management, Angela Doherty, in response to a Flagstaff question about what was happening locally. Two sirens had been added at Orewa because it was considered a high-risk site because of its flat topography and population density, she said. Site-specific assessment of tsunami-inundation risks was needed before decisions on more sirens.

"After we've completed the new modelling, we'll start looking at how to best support our coastal communities and support the existing national alerting system, the Emergency Mobile Alert."

Doherty said the mobile alert was the country's primary warning mechanism. "Anything we do is to support that system or provide additional alerting capability." Other means of warnings included media alerts, and a sign-up SMS service.

Sirens in the former Rodney district are sited at Omaha, Port Wells, Whangateau, Wairewa and Orewa. In Waitakere, they are at Te Henga/Bethells Beach, Piha (north and south), Karekare, Huia, Little Huia, Whatipu, Te Atatu (north and south) and Herald Island.

The siren testing on 27 September coincided with the start of daylight saving. Emergency Management's general manager, Kate Crawford, said it was important to check the sirens were working and to remind Aucklanders what they sounded like.

## Asbestos warnings at Navy's officer-training site

Danger signs have been posted on buildings at Fort Cautley warning against unauthorised entry and asbestos risk. Removal of asbestos from a warehouse will take part in tandem with a major building project recently begun on the Narrow Neck site, where Navy officers live and are trained.

A Defence Force spokesperson said temporary pre-fabricated accommodation was being built at a cost expected to be around \$7 million. This would house 96 sailors.

"The barracks on the site have not been in

use for over a year now due to asbestos identified within them. No work is presently being done regarding these barracks."

The danger signs on the site, closed to non-service personnel, are on buildings along the public walkway from Vauxhall Rd to the back field at Fort Takapuna.

The spokesperson said the warehouse from which asbestos was currently being removed had been wrapped in plastic, with signage in the area for health-and-safety purposes. The asbestos removal should be completed by October 19.



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# Belmont intersection shake-up on the cards

Plans to improve Belmont centre seem set to spell the end of the free left turn from Bayswater onto Lake Rd.

The slip road by the shops along the eastern side of Lake Rd into Williamson Ave may also be sacrificed.

Two plans – so-called basic and enhanced options – have been drawn up by Auckland Transport (AT). Work is dependent on funding, so unlikely to proceed any time soon, due to Covid-19 budget impacts. The options were produced to work in with designs already drawn up for the length of Lake Rd, but this major project is also on hold.

At its last monthly meeting, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board debated the Belmont Centre Improvement Plan, which was reported back after community consultation earlier this year.

Changes included: positioning cycle lanes inside parallel parking on the western kerb side of Lake Rd and the south side of Bayswater Ave; introducing a clearway on the west side of Lake Rd during the morning peak traffic, reverting to car parking for the rest of the day; and adding extra parking spaces on Williamson Ave.

Member Trish Deans said she was concerned that Bayswater residents might not understand their free left-hand turn into Lake Rd could be lost with both options. But if funding for the project came through, this would be part of further community consultation.

Deputy chair George Wood said with Belmont's population set to grow through housing intensification, AT's design work was timely. However, losing the slip road "may improve amenities, but not for car users."

Toni van Tonder said locals wanted public space increased and traffic slowed. As a result, she preferred option 2, which did away with the slip road into Williamson Ave. But Jan O'Connor said not having the slip road could cause traffic congestion at the intersection.

Ruth Jackson said issues near the Rose Centre were not resolved. Safe parking for the centre and school, and childcare drop-offs, plus the bus stop, all had to be catered for. "Now all those people are going to have to go out into the helter-skelter of Lake Rd."

An AT official told the meeting that with traffic phasing and a dedicated left-turning lane, the impact would be lessened.

Option 2 had budget implications, he reported, but was the "optimal scenario." For improved curbing, paving and lighting, a top-up of funds would be needed. This had not been costed in detail. Option 1 retains a narrower slip road, but like Option 2, which provides more public space, it switches to parallel parking instead of angled spaces.

Van Tonder said she used the area daily and was not concerned about the safety of parallel parking as speeding was not an

issue. People wanted more cycling infrastructure, more trees and safer areas to walk in. "It's not a thoroughfare, more a pick-up and drop-off zone," she said.

Deans and Jackson held concerns that if traffic backed up at Belmont, more drivers would rat-run onto Lake Rd from side streets rather than using the main controlled intersection.

Chairperson Aidan Bennett urged board approval for AT's plan, saying not to endorse it would mean "we'll just be sitting on our hands again" – as had been the case with Lake Rd. While funding was an issue for the future, progressing the project with board approval would signal intent. There could be design tweaks along the way.

In the end, a motion put by George Wood and seconded by Bennett was unanimously

carried. It approved the Belmont Centre Improvement Plan, containing both options, as the final output of the Belmont Centre Design Initiative begun in 2019; and for staff to use the options as the basis for more detailed work in future, when AT's Lake Rd improvements project was progressed.

• Funding for Lake Rd was put on hold in the Auckland Council Emergency Budget for 2020-21, due to Covid cuts. A divided board wanted more work done on the road's design. AT says it will complete a detailed business case for Lake Rd, but not proceed with detailed design and implementation at this stage.

North Shore councillors, who fought for funding, have said they fear the lack of board backing will push the proposal down the pecking order.

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## Devonport ferry update

Fullers is continuing its half-hourly Devonport to Auckland off-peak ferry services, put on when Auckland Harbour Bridge capacity was first reduced. Fullers added 14 off-peak services a week from 21 September to help meet demand from commuters ferrying rather than driving to work. The company announced last Friday it would continue to depart every 30 minutes, rather than revert to hourly sailing, as introduced post-Covid. From 7.30am to 8.30am on weekdays, the ferries leave every 15 minutes.

Planning is underway in consultation with Auckland Transport and the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board to move to a 20-minute peak-time ferry cycle from January 2021 and to tie this into connecting road-transport services. The extra five minutes between trips would provide more time to manage loading, which was increasingly involving passengers bringing on board bicycles, e-bikes and e-scooters, Fullers said.

## Kindy marks 75 years

Belmont Bayswater Kindergarten is celebrating 75 years with a cake-cutting ceremony next weekend. Since 1945, nearly 200,000 children have gone through the early learning centre at 1c Rosyth Ave.

To mark the occasion, community members are invited along from 11.30am to 2pm on Saturday, 17 October, with the cake to be cut at 12.30pm. Entry is by gold-coin donation, with proceeds to go towards new chairs for tamariki.

## 2020 North Harbour rugby reps

Two Takapuna Grammar (TGS) students have been selected for the North Harbour Rugby under-18s squad, but Rosmini College and Westlake Boys made up the bulk of the squad.

TGS picks were Hunter Rice and James Fairbairn.

From Rosmini College came Metui Telefoni, Conor Morley, Ofa Sesoni, Sam Ascherbrock, Jacob Milham, Lani Vatuvei, Cam Howell, Carlos Phillips, Rory Taylor, Truman Cuff, and Nehemiah Amaroa. Rosmini's Sam Davies and Cam Holloway were also selected, but can't play due to injury.

From Westlake Boys High School those selected were: Eliakim Tiakia, Righard Snyman, Will Evans, Titera Bura, Chandler Cunningham, Zamian Martin, Chlayton Koetze, Chance Keremiti, Caleb Faloon, Brook Robson, Lopeti Tavui, Tafui Lolohea and Tristan Cook.

The rest of the squad is Rusiate Finau, Zinzan Hansen and Ben McMillan from Massey High School; Angus Henare, Orewa College; Corey Mead, Rangitoto College; Winiana Tamatea and Eli Hallum, Mahurangi College; and Liam McNulty, Whangaparaoa College.

Westlake's Caleb Tangitau is the only North Harbour player selected to join the New Zealand Barbarian Under-18s squad, following an outstanding performance in the Fuji Xerox 1st XV competition.



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## Renovated tower room display art

The annual International Baccalaureate (IB) Art Exhibition, featured a culmination of nearly two years of work for Takapuna Grammar School art students.

This year the exhibition was held in the historic Tower Room which had been renovated in the recent building upgrade. The high ceilings and stained-glass windows provided a beautiful space to display the students' work, said IB faculty teacher Maria Blanco.

Senior art student Carol Chen who displayed her work at the exhibition produced art inspired by her hometown, Yunnan China, a province where more than half of China's ethnic minorities live. "It is difficult to establish smooth communication between mountains and modern cities, as many ethnic minorities live in deep mountains," she said.

Carol's photography and paintings portray ethnic-minority culture disappearing and becoming integrated with modern science, technology elements, and futuristic Cyberpunk style. Through her progression and arrangement of exhibition works, she hoped the audience would appreciate and feel the importance of integration of Chinese ethnic-minority culture with modern and Western cultures, while understanding the negative effects it may cause from over integration.

She intended to create a space for the audience to reflect as they observe the works, pondering the importance of culture and nature over money and wealth. Carol wants to study at Central Saint Martins, a college of the University of the Arts London.



**Carol Chen's photography represents the changing of her culture**

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 open tunings  
 all ages and levels*

## Collective thinking

Seven artists, designers, and jewellery and furniture makers have joined together to open a pop-up store in Devonport. Among them is Anna Cernis, whose Powerpoint pictures of Devonport buildings have featured in the Flagstaff.

Known as Gather Collective, the group had planned to open earlier in the old Vauxhall Vintage store, but lockdown disrupted this. They will now reside in the former Resene building off Wyndham St from Sunday, 11 October.

Designer Ruth McGill said the creatives included a "mix of old friends and new, who have all been motivated by the events of this year to do something a bit different."

## Cat comes back

*Greedy Cat* is returning to the Pumphouse Theatre for extra dates, after a successful run in the school holidays. The Tim Bray production of Joy Cowley's children's story was a post-Covid 19 comeback and the 100th production from this long-standing children's theatre group, which crowd-funded to survive the arts downturn. The show, with songs, was then staged in South Auckland and will return to Takapuna on 20-22 October.

The weekday shows are suitable for pre-schoolers. Supporters can also contribute to Tim Bray's Gift a Seat initiative, which provides access to theatre performances for people who might otherwise not be able to afford it. Bookings at timbray.org.nz

## Bird's eye view

Wooden sculptures featuring native birds are on display at Art by the Sea until 20 October. The exhibition is by Derek March, a Te Henga/Bethell's Beach-based artist with a passion for the environment. March was tutored by Colin McCahan and also paints landscapes.

**Devonport**  
 Architecture of Land and Sea

28 Clarence St, Devonport  
 depotartspace.co.nz  
 (09) 963-2331

An Exhibition by  
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**5 Sept - 14 Oct 2020**

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 Paintings, prints, commissions, architectural design available

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## Waterlogged find fashioned into a sculpture for exhibition



A rudder salvaged from the sea off the Devonport waterfront will soon stand proud as a beacon of spatial storytelling.

The over piece, which is more than three metres tall, was found and is being reworked by Devonport artist Graham Downs. It will be among 10 works on display at the first Milford Centre Sculpture Trail.

Downs has spent several months transforming what was a waterlogged hunk of wood into a shaped and carved sculpture that will be wrapped in copper vines, all crafted by hand.

He spotted the rudder – “off a very big boat, definitely a yacht shape” – in the water just off King Edward Pde near the Devonport Yacht Club. With help from friends he dragged it ashore and into a van to transport to his Devonport garage.

“This whole piece is about history to me; it’s about seafaring, it’s about navigation and it’s about shipwrights.”

It was shaped using tools that belonged to his father, a former Navy chief engineer. It also includes Viking-type symbols, in memory of a Danish friend who was proud of the seafaring traditions of his forebears.

Another Devonport resident, Ngahiwi Walker, is also working messages in wood for the sculpture trail.

The week-long exhibition will benefit Mike

King’s I Am Hope Foundation, which deals with mental-health issues. It also fills a big gap in the North Shore arts calendar, after the Covid-19-related cancellation of Sculpture on the Shore.

Walker, the manager of Devonport Naval Base’s Te Taua Moana Marae, was to have shown at Sculpture on the Shore, as were several other artists invited to Milford instead. He has carved pillars of hope to fit what he says is the good kaupapa of the free event.

A portion of any sales from the works exhibited will go to the foundation.

Walker’s five pou represent the strength of whanau in the face of Te Korekore, or the darkness that surrounds mental health.

The pou stand at varying heights, representing a kaumatua, a kuia, male and female leaders, and mokopuna. At the base of each pou, his chisel marks signify the darkness that challenges us all, with other symbols depicting different whanau characteristics that can combat this. “If you’ve got the darkness there in the family, it affects everyone,” he says.

The show is curated by Mike Geers, co-director of Art by the Sea gallery, who said it featured some spectacular large pieces. He suggested the charity element for a cause he supports after Milford Centre said it wanted to do something locally to mark Auckland Art

**Found object... Artist Graham Downs with the salvaged rudder he has turned into a sculpture, with more work to come on it.**

# Plein Air & More

## John Horner

17th October - 4th November

Opening Saturday 17th Oct 10am - 4pm



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09-963 2331

Johnhorner.co.nz

Depot Artspace

Devonport-Takapuna  
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Auckland Council

creative  
COMMUNITIES nz



Week (10-18 October).

“Bringing high-class art into a public space was a way of offering some support to artists hit by cancellations in what had been a tough year,” said centre spokesperson Kate Carey.

The sizable artworks will be dotted around the central interior spaces of the centre.

Walker and Downs both welcomed the opportunity to have their work seen and to support the show. Two other North Shore artists are among the total of 10 showing. One is Bill Hayes, who has had a studio at the Lake House Arts Centre for 23 years and taught ceramics there for a decade. The other is Christian Nicolson from Torbay who, like Downs, is best known for his paintings featuring the sea.

The show is not the first time Downs has switched mediums – or found a rudder. The professional painter of nearly 20 years says he has always been drawn to the sea. He likes to sail and has dabbled in boatbuilding. “I always have nautical pieces and eventually they find a use.”

A smaller rudder he previously found in local waters also became a sculpture. The larger one, found just after the first Covid-19 lockdown, was hollow and had been in the water a very long time, he said. Once dried it showed a lovely patina. He cut the top off it and added compound curves, before adding carving and then bronze casting.

“It’s been quite a journey to put it together and a lot of problem-solving,” said Downs. Skills from boatbuilding, carving, metalwork and blacksmithing all came into play. A block and tackle was needed to lift the shaped and carved rudder upright, after which he planned to wrap it in the copper vines he had made. These signified its ties to the ground because “it’s part of both sea and land.” Everything was hand-made and riveted together, rather than welded.

A final addition would be two old navigation lamps he had acquired from a boat made by a noted early builder Terry Wilmer. “It’s all these memories of different people and myself in it.”

Downs says he imagines the work might find a final home in a garden or a vineyard. “It would be great by the sea somewhere.”

•The Milford Centre Sculpture Trail opens on Saturday 10 October. Private guided tours are available to explain the works. The tours are free, but need to be booked.

Details are on milfordcentre.co.nz.



**Pou power... Ngahiwi Walker with three of his carved posts, representing the strength of whanau in facing mental-health challenges**

# VICTORIA THEATRE DEVONPORT



**SPECIALS**  
CHEAP TUESDAY  
\$10 Adult / \$8 Child  
\*EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

**NOW SHOWING**

It Must Be Heaven (PG) 102min	NEW
Lucky Grandma (M) 88min	NEW
The More You Ignore Me (M) 99min	NEW
The Mystery of Henri Pick (M) 101min	NEW
100% Wolf (PG) 96min	NEW
The Swallows Of Kabul (R13) 85min	NEW
Faces Places (E) 89min	ART WEEK SPECIAL
Frida: Viva la Vida (E) 90min	ART WEEK SPECIAL
House Of Cardin (E) 95min	ART WEEK SPECIAL

**VENUE HIRE**



**COMING SOON**

Tintoretto: A Rebel in Venice (E) 90min	15 OCT
Swing Time (1946) (G) 103min	15 OCT SPECIAL SCREENINGS
I am Greta (E) 98min	16 OCT



**ST MATTHEW'S CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

**Sun 18 Oct at 2.30pm**

**PROGRAMME**

Ravel Le Tombeau de Couperin  
J Conus Violin Concerto in E minor 1898  
Sinding Suite im alten Stil Op 10  
Poulenc Sinfonietta

**SOLOIST**  
Andrew Beer

**CONDUCTOR**  
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