

# The Devonport

# Flagstaff

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November 20, 2020  
[devonportflagstaff.co.nz](http://devonportflagstaff.co.nz)

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## Court action seeks consultation on property sell-off

A legal challenge has been lodged against the potential sale of the former borough council building in Devonport, 2 The Strand Takapuna, and three North Shore public reserves.

Both Auckland Council-owned buildings

have been vacant for years and post-Covid are on a list of assets under investigation for sale.

The reserves are located at Linwood Rd and Forrest Hill Rd, Forrest Hill, and Bloomfield Spa in Takapuna.

Save Our Shore Public Spaces, a newly formed incorporated society made up of community leaders from Milford, Sunnynook, Takapuna and Devonport, has

**To page 2**

## Vauxhall School marks 100 years



In strong voice... Vauxhall School pupils (from left) Isla Davis, Charlotte McBride, Soraya Yates and Olivia Shen at the opening ceremony of the school's centenary celebrations. More pictures and story pages 28, 29.

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## Council issues warning on safety and sea slugs

Beach walkers coming across what they think might be toxic slugs linked to dog poisonings should report sightings to Auckland Council.

"It's a normal occurrence for sea slugs to be washed ashore, but if there's unusually high numbers council will investigate," said its environmental health manager, Mervyn Chetty.

Vets recommend a close eye (or a leash) be kept on dogs, who may try to eat the slugs. People should not touch them, says the council, and young children on the beach should be monitored.

The toxic grey side-gilled slugs (*Pleurobranchaea maculata*) are native to New Zealand and grow to 10cm-long. Postings have been made on social media of recent sightings at Narrow Neck. This follows cases of dogs becoming unwell after visiting Takapuna and



Milford beaches.

"While it hasn't been confirmed that this is due to the dogs being poisoned by eating toxic sea slugs, it is a timely reminder for people to be vigilant and remain cautious at all times," said Chetty.

In 2009, the slugs were linked to dog deaths

in Auckland. They are known to contain tetrodotoxin, which can be highly poisonous.

The council advises that sea life generally that is found on the beach should not be handled as it may contain harmful levels of bacteria or be poisonous. Anything washed ashore should not be eaten.

People who have been in contact with a sea slug and who start to feel unwell should immediately call 111 for emergency assistance. Anyone who thinks their dog has licked or ingested a toxic slug should contact a vet immediately.

Chetty said people spotting what they thought was a grey side-gilled slug (see picture) could call the council on (09) 301 0101. They could take also take a photograph to send to council staff (at [Healthenforcement@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:Healthenforcement@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)) to help with identification.

## Euthanasia a Shore thing

North Shore residents voted for euthanasia in greater numbers than other New Zealanders, but were less keen on cannabis reform.

In the North Shore electorate, 69.3 per cent of voters supported the End of Life Bill, with only 29.8 per cent against. Nationally the figures were 65.1 per cent for and 33.7 per cent against, according to official referendum figures.

Forty-five per cent of North Shore voters supported cannabis reform, with 54.4 per cent against. Nationally the figures were 48.4 per cent for and 50.7 per cent against.

Interestingly, 4087 special votes supported cannabis reform, with 2934 against.

## Watts begins parliamentary journey

North Shore's new MP, Simon Watts, has been appointed the National Party's spokesman on ACC and its associate health spokesman.

Although he sits at the bottom of the party's rankings, as expected, along with the other first-termers, the poor election result for the party has given newcomers the chance to pick up roles that in a larger caucus would most likely not have been available.

"I am excited to get stuck in," said Watts.

### From page 1

### Court action seeks consultation

lodged an application for judicial review in the High Court, seeking an order forcing council to have meaningful consultation with the public over any sales.

As part of the legal claim, an interim order to stop any sales was sought.

Council had until this week to file its defence. That would trigger the setting of a date for a hearing.

Group spokesperson Grant Gillon, a former Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member and North Shore City Councillor, said while sales

could not be permanently stopped, the law was clear that council needed to consult meaningfully with the community over land disposal.

"We are arguing the buildings should be included in this as well, as they are community spaces – council should consult on them if they want to sell them," Gillon said.

The retention of the buildings for community use was the thrust of a number of Devonport-Takapuna Local Board resolutions over recent years.

Council had been aggressive, Gillon said.

"There has been some mediation [last Wednesday] at my request, after council threatened a community group with costs, which is pretty reprehensible."

The original Save Our Shore Public Spaces claim included another reserve at Hauraki. But council had since dropped this from its list of 102 parks for sale across Auckland, Gillon said.

A spokesperson for council's property arm, Panuku, said both buildings were still on the emergency-budget recycling list but no decisions had yet been made.

## 3 Victoria Rd: empty for 865 days

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

It has now been unoccupied for 865 days. Auckland Council development arm Panuku is working through the future options for the building.



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## Rotary Christmas shop pops up ahead of festive season



**Trees a crowd-pleaser... Sharing Christmas goodwill are (from left) Jackie Brewer, Viv Dykes and Paddy Stafford-Bush, holding the seasonal fabric bunting that will be among items sold for charity**

Christmas-themed shopping for a good cause comes to Devonport next week, with the opening of a Rotary fundraising outlet.

The pop-up shop, to open for two days, will sell hand-crafted decorative and gift items, ideal for those who like to dress their homes with seasonal flair. Among these are door wreaths, fabric reindeer to sit on the mantlepiece and Christmas bunting. Painted wooden Christmas trees and cakes, including gluten-free options, will also be on sale.

Proceeds would be directed to help people in need, said Devonport Rotary member Paddy Stafford-Bush.

A team of around 10 has been busily sourcing and crafting items for some months, among them near neighbours in Cheltenham, Jackie Brewer and Viv Dykes. Brewer even got a family member to pitch in, by bringing foraged pine cones from the South Island to be used in the making of wreaths. Vines for the wreaths were sourced from Soljans vineyard in west Auckland.

Brewer's husband Craig, a Rotary member, has been helping out making trees in the couple's garage, from donated wooden palettes.

Dykes has used her sewing skills to fashion a number of reusable fabric gift bags, for wine

or smaller presents. Food throws and napkins in Christmas prints will also be available.

The group calls itself the Christmas pop-up committee and hopes to raise upwards of \$5000. Items to be sold will range in price from a few dollars to just under \$100, said Dykes.

Stafford-Bush said not all of the mostly female volunteers were Rotarians, but they had been keen to enter the Christmas spirit. "It's brought us all together too, which is lovely."

Rotary usually fundraises through its Fine Homes Tours, held every second year. With a separate alternating biennial event, Sculpture on the Shore, moved back to 2021 because of Covid-19, the popular home tours will not now take place until 2022.

The pop-up shop would help fill the gap, said Stafford-Bush, keeping up Rotary's profile and also linking to the tours, which last time round featured a theme of homes decorated for Christmas. The idea was born during lockdown, with most of the bespoke items made over the last three to four months.

The store would also sell the wider Rotary organisation's plum puddings and host a raffle.

Funds raised would go to the Rotary Trust

to distribute to individuals, families and groups in need. Rotary would liaise with community groups to determine who to help and welcomed approaches as well. "It's been a hard, sad year and this just gives something to look forward to," said Brewer.

• Find the Rotary pop-up shop, in Clarence St, Devonport (next to Harcourts), open on Friday 27 November from 9am to 5pm and again, stock permitting, on Saturday 28 November.

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## America's Cup dinghies off course

The construction of Devonport waterfront dinghies to highlight the area's history during the America's Cup racing has been put on hold.

Twelve boat bases have been cut out but Devonport Business Association (DBA) chair Dianne Hale has halted the project due to uncertainties over Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED) funding.

ATEED and the DBA were to have joined in a number of projects in Devonport as part of the wider America's Cup offering. But ATEED's financial contribution has been uncertain since the Covid-19-related financial cutbacks at Auckland Council.

A meeting between ATEED and the DBA last was put off, the Flagstaff understands.

Originally, 20 dinghies were to be modified and placed on plinths along the waterfront, from the Devonport ferry terminal to Torpedo Bay, with plaques highlighting the area's history. The number of dinghies was cut to 15, and then 12, as the project ran into consent and funding issues.

It was discovered that the dinghies could only be temporarily located on the waterfront – permanent plinths would need consent in a heritage area.

Hale was optimistic that some ATEED fund-

ing would still come through, but described the situation as "frustrating".

The cut-out dinghies may end up being painted or decorated by school pupils or something similarly "creative", Hale said.

The DBA hoped that a big screen of some sort would still be erected at Windsor Reserve so the public could watch the racing.

The Covid-affected year had been difficult for the DBA, with events such as Parking Day cancelled and Fashion on the Wharf shifted to the New Year.

"It's been difficult... but every organisation has been in the same situation," Hale said.

## Rail on track to cross under harbour from city to Shore

Rail into Takapuna has emerged as the favoured plan for a second harbour crossing. A rail-only tunnel would cross from the city, under the Waitemata Harbour, likely from Wynyard Quarter, with a stop at Takapuna and another stop at Smales Farm.

"This is the most definite course I've seen on the harbour crossing ever, says North Shore councilor Chris Darby who chairs Auckland Council's Planning Committee which was briefed on the latest plan this month by Waka Kotahi -- New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA).

Linking rail with buses, including those running down Lake Rd and to the north, was part of the big picture that in time would connect services city-wide and to the airport, he said.

Although building a \$5 billion plus tunnel is likely 10-20 years away, signalling intent on whether a second crossing is to be rail, road, or a mix of both is a significant step.

A business case for NZTA's recommended plan comes in the form of a three-step development to deal with growth and congestion on the North Shore and take pressure off the country's most travelled daily route, across the Auckland Harbour Bridge. Stage one, already underway, is improvements by Auckland Transport (AT) to the Northern Busway, with stage two being the rail tunnel, primarily to be funded by the Government, and stage three being more study extra roading network needs across the harbour and the best connections.

Darby, who has advocated for rail to Takapuna and the wider North Shore for decades, pushed successfully for the business study to proceed two years ago. The city could not fit more and more buses and cars, he said. Rail offered the better rapid transport option. In time, the rail spur to Takapuna could be extended north to Albany via the busway. The busway through Akoranga was a success, but needed supplementing.

North Shore's new National Party MP, Simon Watts, says: "If it's worth doing, it's worth doing in one go." His party favoured a dual road and rail tunnel, catering for public and private transport. For transport and economic resilience this was required "sooner rather than later," he said.

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## Trio's short film puts tough questions on the menu

Devonport-raised Casey Latch is the driving force behind a challenging new short film, *Waitress*.

The female-developed project, which looks at the corrosive impact of sexual harassment in the workplace, was shot at Vic Road Kitchen.

It has been produced by 24-year-old Latch, a former Takapuna Grammar School student, working with two other young Auckland creatives.

Latch was blown away to be given the key to the restaurant for filming over two nights, after co-owner Harriet Byrnes agreed to a last-minute request to let it be used when another location fell through.

Scriptwriter and actor Rhiannon McCall, 26, and director Ella Hope-Higginson, 28, round out the trio behind the fictional story that seeks to be a “gut punch” to prompt viewers to think about damaging power imbalances. All but one scene of the film was set at Vic Rd.

“It’s a beautiful, warm and inviting restaurant. It [sexual harassment] is something that doesn’t have to happen in dark, dingy places,” said Latch.

Hope-Higginson said the bar and restaurant was also visually ideal from a filmic point of view, with plenty of the textural interest in its bricks, metal and heavy tables.

McCall, who has worked in hospitality on and off for a decade, around developing her comedy and acting career, said the aim of the film was to show why even the strongest of women stay silent when put into dangerous situations. “It’s not a true story, not something that happened to me. But it is about the dangers of it, putting up with a lot.”

It explored how situations could snowball and lines get crossed. “There’s valid reasons why women victims of sexual harassment don’t speak up.”

The hospitality industry was not the specific target of the film, said Hope-Higginson. “It could be an office, a shop, or any kind of service industry.”



**Creative trio... (from left) filmmakers Rhiannon McCall, Casey Latch and Ella Hope-Higginson**

At the time of writing, the seven-and-a-half minute film had just been posted online and will be available on demand on Maori TV and Radio New Zealand.

The trio intend to enter it into festivals. “We’re hoping it will be a stepping stone in terms of our respective careers,” says Latch.

Her own interest in film was sparked by her father who worked in television, and through taking media studies at Takapuna Grammar. She developed a passion for being behind the camera and went on to AUT to study communications and business, before working in television, where she is now a freelance production manager.

It was at TVNZ that Latch first met McCall, who was writing comedy gags after moving north from Christchurch. Between ongoing comedy and writing work and acting jobs, she no longer needs her side gig

in hospitality.

McCall recommended Hope-Higginson, an acting graduate of Toi Whakaari: New Zealand Drama School, who has been taking roles and making films in Auckland.

The three women teamed up to make *Waitress*, which came about when McCall’s script was one of six chosen for development. It received \$10,000 from the Outlook for Sunday Stories fund, supported by the Film Commission, New Zealand on Air and the Vista Foundation.

An industry screening of the six “Sunday Stories” was held last month. “It was an amazing experience having a screening on a big screen and seeing it get the reaction we had hoped,” said Latch. Her aim is for viewers of *Waitress* to go away and think about how it unfolded. “We want people to think it can be better in the future,” said McCall.

## Downsizing Property

We are seeing several examples of [more elderly] people looking to downsize their property, say from a larger [\$3m] family home, to a smaller [\$1.5m] unit or townhouse, or out of town. It can be a problem for those looking to buy before they sell as they have to request “open bridge” finance from their bank.

For an open bridge, the bank requires the borrower to be able to service the entire borrowing (usually 100% for the new place plus any existing mortgage on the current place), which is often not possible for someone who has stopped working or has insufficient income, even if they count the possible rent from their existing place should it not sell for some reason.

Speak to us if you are in this predicament. Non-bank asset lenders out there will lend against the combined asset value of the properties and not worry about the income, as they have sufficient security and an exit strategy.

Ideally it is best to buy and sell simultaneously (but this is not always possible) or to at least have an unconditional contract on both properties even with non-matching settlement dates, as the banks will lend on a “closed bridge” basis.

The property market is still going nuts with demand well in excess of supply and we certainly can’t see any rationale for further interest-rate cuts.

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## Devonport Primary has a new doctor in the house

After eight years of part-time study – the last three as Devonport Primary School principal – Beverley Booth has just graduated as a Doctor of Education from the University of Auckland.

“Trying to finish a doctorate and run a school in the middle of Covid-19 has been the biggest challenge,” said Booth.

Towards the end of her PhD study, it became quite a struggle. But every day last year, she had two students ask her, “have you done your homework Mrs. Booth?”

“On nights when I was quite tired, I would have to do some work because I knew those students would ask me in the morning if I had.”

The focus of her doctorate was on pupils having safe learning environments and managing themselves as learners.

“I also learned a lot about what makes good teachers and what helps them develop their practices,” she said.

Booth, who moved to Devonport from England in 2008, also learnt a lot about New Zealand’s Education system. She conducted her research in schools around Auckland.

Having celebrated Booth’s graduation, the school is also set to celebrate its 150th anniversary with an open day on 4 December.

The school is publishing a coffee-table book with a collection of images and personal stories from the past. It will highlight significant teachers and events.

Two parents from the school, Emma Sturgess and Katherine Mason, have done a lot of the research and organising of the publication. They are set to print around 300 copies, which will be available for purchase at the open day.

Sturgess’s daughter Catherine Sturgess-Taylor is a year-two student at Devonport Primary and the fourth generation in her family to attend the school. “Hundreds of voluntary hours have gone into creating this book, which is not your average school book,” said Sturgess. She has worked with the National Library and Devonport museum to conduct research and source historical photographs. Ex-pupil Kathy Cummings is editor of the book.



**Devonport Primary Principal Beverley Booth, with students Ida McAlpine and Melvin Liu, who always reminded her to do her homework**



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## Thieves snapped sticky-handed

A brazen daylight ice-cream theft is just the latest of a series of crimes to plague the owners of a Devonport cafe.

A group of several young people stole a container of ice cream from the Akdeniz cafe and restaurant in The Arcade in Victoria Rd last Thursday, around 6.20pm.

One youth was caught on a security camera moving the ice-cream freezer away from the wall and taking the cover off, before blatantly taking a container of ice cream worth \$60 and a spoon, while a girl and another boy appeared to stand guard at the arcade entrance.

The cafe has posted the footage online.

Previously this year, the cafe had two ladders stolen, which cost hundreds of dollars to replace, and also had \$800 worth of food deliveries, including milk and meat, taken from outside the cafe.

"We don't care about the money lost, we just don't want this to keep happening," said cafe owner Farnaz Jafaryazdi.

"We don't feel safe and we don't know what will happen after we close for the day."

"I hope the parents of these kids watch their



**Caught in the act... a security-camera image of the youth who took ice cream from the Akdeniz freezer**

kids' behaviour, because they are responsible too. It's not right what they are doing," she said.

The theft has been reported to police.

## Tug to be tugged

The William C Daldy won't exactly be powering back into Devonport.

The heritage tug boat is set to be berthed at Victoria Wharf from the end of the month. But it will be towed into its permanent mooring because firing up the engine isn't worth-

while for its short trip across the harbour.

The exact date of arrival had yet to be decided as the Flagstaff went to press. But it needs to move from its current spot on the cityside of the harbour by 8 December, a council spokesperson said.



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# Final call: ASB closing in Devonport

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**Eliza Sagar, ASB customer for more than 30 years**



**Laurence Smoothy, lifelong ASB customer**



**Richard Joughin, lifelong ASB customer**



**Laurie Spinley, lifelong ASB customer**



**Anne Sutton, lifelong ASB customer**

Why are they closing? It's very disappointing. They are not focusing on customers and not helping us get through Covid-19.

I was going to ASB when it was in the old post-office building in Devonport. It is very upsetting to hear they will be closing.

Having no banks in Devonport will suck, especially for our elderly people. They will have to catch the bus to Takapuna. They should be able to access their money easily.

I still have my ASB bank book from 1941. It is sad that one of the banks that has been in Devonport the longest is now disappearing too.

It's going to be hard having to go up to Takapuna to get to the bank. Young people don't use the banks any more but we do, and we think their service is excellent.

## ASB branch final day in March

ASB's Devonport branch will close on Friday 19 March 2021.

However, its ATM machine will remain in place and "we will be adding a Business Deposit Unit and Change Machine to support local businesses," ASB Executive General Manager Retail Banking Craig Sims said.

"The reality is that customers are increasingly moving to digital and self-service channels, and the pandemic has only accelerated this trend."

"Customer visits to the Devonport branch have declined by almost 40 percent over the

past three years," he said.

No job losses will occur as a result of the closure. The bank leases the building.

"Branches will always be part of our customer-service mix at ASB."

"When the branch closes, our Devonport branch people will still be delivering great customer service via our phone, video link and online channels to ASB customers in Devonport and all over New Zealand."

"In fact, we've found that by working this way, our people can generally help twice as many customers per day," Sims said.

## Banking in Devonport

The closure of the ASB Bank next year, will mark the end of 120 years of banks operating branches in Devonport.

A decade ago, all the major banks – except National – had branches in Devonport.

ASB opened in 1901. The Bank of New Zealand ran a branch from 1913 to 2018. ANZ was open from 1951 to 2019, while Westpac was in Victoria Rd from 1991 to 2020, originally setting up as Trust Bank, before it was amalgamated into Westpac.

All the banks cited increasing use of online banking and declining numbers going to branches as the primary reason for closures.

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### **Charming Cheltenham villa with cottage**

Proudly positioned just 135m from Cheltenham Beach, this charming villa with striking street presence is a celebration of period architecture, and boasts the enormous benefit of a one-bedroom attached cottage with its own entrance from the street, offering guest accommodation, the potential to generate an income or set up a separate work-from-home space. Bursting with character and turn-of-the-century design features, the original style has been very much retained over the years and will delight those with a passion for the era, and excite those keen to restore and renovate. The grounds are paved meaning easy to care for and all the more time to enjoy the beach-side lifestyle!

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4+1 3+1 1

**Auction (unless sold prior)**  
1.30pm, Thu 3 Dec 2020  
28 Northcroft Street, Takapuna  
**View** Sat/Sun 12-12.30pm  
or by appointment  
**Linda Simmons** 027 459 0957  
[linda.simmons@bayleys.co.nz](mailto:linda.simmons@bayleys.co.nz)  
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**bayleys.co.nz**



## By Rob Drent

A significant era of banking history will end in Devonport in March when the ASB Bank will close its doors after 120 years here.

It is the last bank to operate in Devonport, with Westpac, ANZ and BNZ all having closed their doors over the last couple of years.

In reality, the writing has been on the wall for bank branches for a couple of decades. The rise of computers in banking and use of the internet to manage accounts has meant every year fewer people have needed to visit branches.

The banks were well aware of this trend. About 15 years ago, BNZ, Westpac and the ANZ all sold their Devonport buildings, becoming tenants. In the future – which is now – they could up sticks more easily.

Apart from the inconvenience of having to visit Takapuna or Auckland for some branch services (it's difficult to modify automatic tax payments online, for example), a real loss will be the social contact generated by routine tasks like banking cheques. Tellers usually lived locally. That contact, and the odd conversation you might have in the queue with an acquaintance, is now lost.

Only a couple of decades ago, all the banks were members of the Devonport Business Association (DBA). Managers were part of the



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community and often attended DBA meetings. They had skin in the game. Customers could go to a branch in Victoria Rd and talk to the loan manager about changing a mortgage, buying a house or getting an overdraft. Now accounts are managed in the cloud somewhere, a long way away from local businesses and people.

With the major banks all overseas-owned, profits go mainly to Australia, with little coming back to the local community. How much longer before ATMs go as well, as society becomes increasingly cashless?

The decision to close the ASB branch in Devonport was made without any consultation. It will be particularly galling for Devonport locals who shifted accounts there after other bank branches closed.

The ASB wouldn't tell the Flagstaff how many new accounts the branch had opened since Westpac closed last year. But it must have been hundreds, if not thousands.

Taking the money and running, some might say.

The overall devolution of services in Devonport makes bleak reading: no petrol station (one planned in Cheltenham has consent but no building date); no council services (council planning services moved to Takapuna two decades ago, the remaining office shut a decade ago and an information desk at Devonport Library closed a couple of years back); and no regular police presence (a police station closed decades ago, the Devonport Community constable was merged into the Takapuna station within the last 10 years).

It all means more pressure on congested Lake Rd, without any improvement in public transport or traffic flows.

It does feel like Devonport is morphing into a small rural town before our eyes. More so this summer, without the traditional influx of international tourists from cruise ships.

Part of *Match Fit* – a documentary on ageing former All Blacks getting back in shape – was filmed at North Shore Rugby Club, the home ground of one of the coaches, All Black great Buck Shelford.

Apparently, the shooting was all done under strict secrecy as producers wanted to keep

the series – an interesting exploration of the middle-aged male psyche – under wraps until it launched.

Surely a good PR opportunity was missed? A touch-football run around for the old boys against a team of North Shore juniors would have been a fun local story to cover.

It's probably just as well the \$47-million Lake Rd upgrade has been put on hold this year due to Covid-19 funding implications. The somewhat surprising news that rail to the Shore is part of the plan for a tunnelled second harbour crossing is sure to have a massive impact on all infrastructure planning this side of the Harbour Bridge.

At the very least, trains of some description to Takapuna seem to have moved up the government's transport agenda. They may be decades away, given the glacial pace of planning and construction in New Zealand.

But it's time for a double-check on Lake Rd plans to make sure they are future-proofed to eventually incorporate a tram spur linking up with the rail network. Maybe in my lifetime I'll see a tram running down Lake Rd, as envisaged by planners in a document I have seen that was produced about 120 years ago.



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they learn and grow"*



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# Harcourts

**NEW LISTING**



## Devonport 4 William Bond Street

4 2 1 1 1

### Fantastic Family Sized Villa

Opening the front door of this gorgeous single bay villa you have an immediate feeling of space and light. The new white washed oak flooring, big wide hallway and fresh white walls combining to create a calming environment and a lovely open feel to this family home. The main level has a generous open plan living, dining and kitchen area, with trifold windows over the kitchen bench enabling easy entertaining if you are on the back deck and views of the garden, and Mt Victoria. This house presents so many options, depending on your circumstances and needs. If you have been waiting for a big home that you can move into and enjoy then look no further! Enjoy the "holiday at home" atmosphere this great location offers you and the family.

### Auction

On site, 13th December at 5.00pm (unless sold prior)

**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23368](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23368)

#### Diana Murray

M **021 911522**  
[diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz)

#### Ian Cunliffe

M **027 227 9322**  
[iain.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:iain.cunliffe@harcourts.co.nz)  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd Licensed Agent REAA 2008





# Harcourts



Bayswater 16 David Street

3 1 1 1 1

**Position- Potential- Opportunity!**  
We're not going to sugar coat this- but you might be the right person to. It's not for everyone only those who dare to dream and have the smarts will be seeing opportunities just radiating from this property situated on a 574m<sup>2</sup> sun-drenched freehold site with subdivision potential.

**Auction**

On site, 6th December at 6.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23364](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23364)

**Jane Hastings**

M 021 735 263

**Jackie Mark**

M 021 458 797

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Hauraki 15a Hororata Road

3 2 2 2 1

**Hauraki Character Charmer With Pool**  
23 years of ownership coming to an end. This beautiful character bungalow is situated over two levels. Downstairs could be used as a granny flat! Surrounded by tropical plantings on 527m<sup>2</sup> of land, and perfectly private behind a high brick wall, the home is bathed in sunshine and has a wonderful heated saltwater pool at the rear ready for summer!

**Auction**

On site, 8th December at 6.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23284](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23284)

**Jane Hastings**

M 021 735 263

**Jackie Mark**

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Hillcrest 4/87 Ocean View Road

4 2 1 1 2

**Look At All There Is To See!**  
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**Auction**

On site, 29th November at 12.00pm (unless sold prior)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23357](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23357)

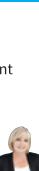
**Jenny Hinton**

M 027 773 1841

jenny.hinton@harcourts.co.nz

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Devonport 62 Lake Road

3 2 2 1 2

**Catch Me - You Can!**  
We bring you a seaward side location, close to Narrow Neck Beach! We bring you 1930s character one level brick and tile! We bring you plenty of potential to add value, all on 511m<sup>2</sup> freehold flat land! In zone for Vauxhall Primary, Belmont Primary, Belmont Intermediate and Takapuna Grammar School. Possession can be given prior to Christmas! Ring us to view today!

**Auction**

On site, 6th December at 2.00pm (USP)  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
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**Jackie Mark**

M 021 458 797

**Jane Hastings**

M 021 735 263

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Devonport 3/40 Lake Road

2 1 1 1

**Opportunity To Live In Devonport**

- Stylish two bedroom home
- Own courtyard garden
- Walk to the beach
- Call to view

**For Sale**

By Negotiation  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23345](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23345)

**Maria Stevens**

M 021 979 084

maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz

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Bayswater 2 Balfour Street

3 2 2 1 2

**Executors Say Sell**

Locals will be surprised to see this very pretty property on the market. It has been much admired over the years by many walking by. The property has excellent indoor/outdoor flow from the family room to low maintenance and well planted gardens. Ideal for outdoor BBQs and entertaining, the gardens are very private and fully fenced.

**For Sale**

Price By Negotiation  
**View** as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23348](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23348)

**Jane Hastings**

M 021 735 263

**Jackie Mark**

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# Harcourts



Devonport 2/57 Lake Road

3 2 1 1 1

- Jump Onto The Property Ladder!
- Entry level sensational Devonport buying opportunity!
- Large townhouse set well back off the main road.
- Tidy 1970s home/rental with exclusive use outdoor area.
- Zoning for top schools
- Vendors totally committed to selling - an absolute must see!

**Auction**

In rooms, 19th Nov at 6.30pm (USP)  
View as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23344](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23344)



Devonport 10b Victoria Road

2 2 1 1

**Spectacular Penthouse Apartment**  
Seldom does an opportunity come along to purchase a stunning new penthouse apartment in the heart of the historic Devonport Village. Featuring bespoke fixtures and fittings throughout and attention to detail in every aspect of the design and quality of the chattels, this an extremely desirable and very rare offering.

**For Sale**

By Negotiation  
View by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23339](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23339)

**Diana Murray**  
M 021 911522  
**Ian Cunliffe**  
M 027 227 9322  
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Waiheke Island 4/4 Bay Road

1 1 1 1

Must Sell!  
Own it before Christmas!

Tucked into a secluded spot of the Waiheke Island Resort this well-presented, north-aspected apartment has views to the Hauraki Gulf. Walk to Cafes, Palm Beach, Ostend Village and the Open Markets. Maintain current management or keep for your exclusive use. The perfect getaway.

**For Sale**

By Negotiation  
View as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23352](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP23352)

**Karen McMahon**  
M 027 572 9659  
**Greg de Marigny**  
M 021 266 1671  
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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  
Licensed Agent REAA 2008



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)  
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd  
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Devonport 47 Lake Road

3 1 1 1 2

**Lock-Up & Leave With Elevated Views**  
• Near new in Devonport on 310m<sup>2</sup> freehold land  
• Garaging for two vehicles with plenty of storage  
• Good sized deck with cosy landscaped garden

**For Sale**

By Negotiation  
View as advertised or by appointment  
[www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22755](http://www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22755)

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## Takararo spring festival



### Looking to downsize without the hassle?

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If you are looking to downsize without the added hassle of open homes, auctions or chain sales, maybe a swap agreement would be right for you?

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# draws crowd

Several hundred people picnicked and were entertained by music, flax-weaving displays and fun races for kids at a Spring Festival held at Takararo last Sunday.

The Mt Cambria Community Garden also held an open day.

Kids took part in egg-and-spoon and sack races, while a highlight was a performance by the Ukes of Devonport band, led by Lance Richardson.

**Family fun (clockwise, this page)... picnickers spread out; Sebby Lawrie (left) and Fergus Tait battle it out in the sack race; Restore Takarunga Hauraki Coordinator Lance Cabilk and Gaby Chambers weave flax.**

**Poised... (opposite page)**  
**Sebby Lawrie (left) and Nikau Catterall with Devonport Volunteer Fire Brigade's Scott Price; competitors line up for the start of the egg-and-spoon race.**



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# Going full-tilt still suits woman of many parts

**Tina Frantzen was many things – teacher, businesswoman, local-body politician and mother – before launching herself into an artistic career. As she looks back on 50 years in Devonport, Frantzen tells Helen Vause about her indefatigable drive to just ‘get on with it’.**



**Going strong... At 75, Tina Frantzen still rows three times a week and has just mounted a retrospective exhibition of her paintings, poems and photographs**

When Tina Frantzen was a child, there was no lolling about for breakfast in pyjamas. Her mother was a firm believer in getting up, getting dressed and getting going – to dive into the day. Seven decades later, that's still the routine that works for Frantzen.

The 75-year-old, who heads over the Harbour Bridge well before seven on three mornings a week to get on the water with her rowing buddies, says she's always been a “get on with it” kind of girl.

To Frantzen, living life at full tilt makes perfect sense: you want to fit it all in, do the

things you love as well as the activities you have to do.

This month, the apparently indefatigable Frantzen has been meeting and greeting visitors to the Depot Artspace, talking about her paintings, poems and photographs that make up a kind of retrospective of her life and her 50 years in Devonport.

The joys, sorrows, loves and losses are all there in her words among the works on the walls.

But make no mistake, she's not done yet. No way is she hanging up her paint brushes,

oars, walking shoes or camera any time soon.

“I know I've done a lot in my life and I know sometimes I just get too busy. I know my enthusiasm sometimes drives everyone a bit crazy. But it's the way I love to be,” she says.

In this full life of Frantzen's there have been distinct phases, but many of the themes have run continuously, such as her eternal optimism.

Among them are the teacher, the businesswoman, artist, actress, writer, photographer, Devonport Borough Councillor, mother, partner, wife, solo parent of a decade, rower, athlete, singer – and probably a few we've missed.

Frantzen was born fighting: her mother had septicaemia.

The sickly infant Tina was named Noeline, because she was a Christmas baby, and she eventually thrived.

Her father died before she was a year old, but, “Mum could do anything. She sewed, she was a florist. She was an incredibly hard worker and such a strong woman. To me she made everything look possible.”

And she passed on those ingredients for a great life, says Frantzen. “Great genes and a positive attitude.”

When Frantzen and her first partner

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settled in Devonport five decades ago, she was pregnant with her first child, Simon, and had had an early career in Australia as a paediatric dietitian

She had been the first of her peers to bring an infant specialisation to her new job in Auckland.

Neither that career nor the partner were to be long-lasting. The partner returned to the Northern hemisphere, leaving Frantzen a solo parent. Undeterred by slender finances or circumstances, she'd made up her mind that teaching was her path and enrolled at teacher-training college.

Sixteen happy years teaching chemistry at Westlake Girls High School followed, with a creative side-serving of school shows – and all the music, drama, and energy that comes with them.

"I loved it. I loved the kids and I loved the work," she recalls.

Meanwhile, there was a new relationship and another baby boy.

With a full-on workload and a young family, Frantzen heard the call of another challenge: the late-1970s fight to stop the proposed development of Ngataringa Bay.

She joined the team fighting the project and won a seat on the local borough council.

"It was so important to step up to that battle and stop a plan that would have forced such awful change onto Devonport. I was seven months pregnant with Nick at the time and I remember clambering up and down steps to go door-knocking. I was exhausted, my life was already so demanding, but it was wonderful to be part of it all. It was a real privilege to be on the council at that time."

Life was full and busy, but once again Frantzen wondered about what might come next – and was open to possibilities.

The insurance industry beckoned, luring her out of the classroom – on a leave of absence, initially – and into the world of business. As a single parent with a mortgage, once again she took a leap of faith.

"It was a risk, I suppose, at that time. But, happily, I prospered."

Perhaps buoyed by the buzz of success, her daredevil streak came forward. She went in for skydiving, paragliding and caving – the latter a big personal challenge for a claustrophobic person.

Then she took herself off to Outward Bound.

In 1998, her single-mother era ended when she met her third partner and future husband, tax expert Terry Boucher, at a writing course. And yes, laughs Frantzen, he is 16 years her junior. More to the point, she says, he is a hero, a friend and a wonderful listener.

In 2002, a personal tragedy changed her direction overnight. Her eldest son, Simon, was killed in a car accident, aged 31.

*"I know I've done  
a lot in my life and I  
know sometimes I just  
get too busy. I know my  
enthusiasm sometimes  
drives everyone a bit  
crazy. But it's the way  
I love to be."*

She sold her business and turned her attention to developing another lifestyle. The grief of those days is echoed in some of her artwork and writing today.

Frantzen came from a creative family but was unsure where her real talent lay. She took formal lessons in painting, life-drawing and photography, to find the best artistic path to pursue.

It turned out to be the right thing to do at the right time in her life. Her creative projects have taken her all over the world, working and researching. She's exhibited often and was very pleased to be a finalist one year in the Wallace Art Awards.

Coming up to 70, Frantzen faced another life blow. She battled cancer, then had double hip replacements.

Certainly, it was tough, she reflects, but every ounce of her positive attitude helped get her through.

Ever-active, and sometimes restless, Frantzen has always been a big walker, covering considerable distances alone around the local mountains, coastlines and urban streets.

"I always walk towards the sun."

And it has been on those countless long solo walks that her poems have taken shape, and the images of her photos and paintings have cemented themselves in her mind's eye – or in her cellphone camera.

During this Covid year, the toy bears in our windows captured her imagination.

With other creative work parked momentarily, she set about producing a series of three children's books centred on those bears.

Already in some schools and libraries, the bear books were a collaboration, a piece of our history she feels couldn't be missed.

Her three early-morning rowing sessions out on the harbour with a masters group of women rowers help keep her fit and energetic.

She's proud to note that they've made it to two world-rowing competitions.

"Being out there on the water, working together, is like nothing else," Frantzen says.

With her 76th birthday coming up, there's another exhibition to be pulled together and a big cycling holiday this side of Christmas.

"I'll be happy that I've lived the best life possible if I can get to the end with the excitement and enthusiasm of a child and the wisdom of adulthood."



## Operation Grapple - We Were There

A portrait exhibition

By Denise Baynham

The exhibition tells the story of Operation Grapple through the words of the veterans - Who Were There.

On now  
10am - 5pm, daily  
Free admission  
[navymuseum.co.nz](http://navymuseum.co.nz)



Please note: The exhibition includes sensitive themes and may not be suitable for young children.

## Handling of sports fields spraying totally irresponsible

People were unaware Vauxhall Reserve had been sprayed with MCPA, a highly eco-toxic chemical (aka Bow & Arrow), due to inadequate signage specifying when Devonport Domain and the reserve were being sprayed.

Subsequently, people entered the fields. The instructions for Bow & Arrow advise that if re-entering a sprayed area before the spray has dried, wear fully protective body suits!

Even though people from all over the North Shore use these fields, only a handful of people living close to the fields were notified that the spraying was to take place.

A few hours later, even after light rain had occurred, well over 100 children were given the go-ahead to play touch rugby on Vauxhall Reserve, handling a ball that would have rolled on moist, freshly sprayed toxic grass.

Auckland Council is guided by the New Zealand Environmental Protection Authority (NZ EPA), which confirms what chemicals are safe to be used in highly populated urban areas.

The judgment of this authority has been heavily criticised, with Forest and Bird stating “to date NZ EPA has done little to instill confidence in its ability to protect the environment and the people who live in New Zealand”.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board (DTLB) and Auckland Council will no doubt blame the contractors for the totally irresponsible way in which the spraying of Vauxhall Re-

serve and Devonport Domain was handled.

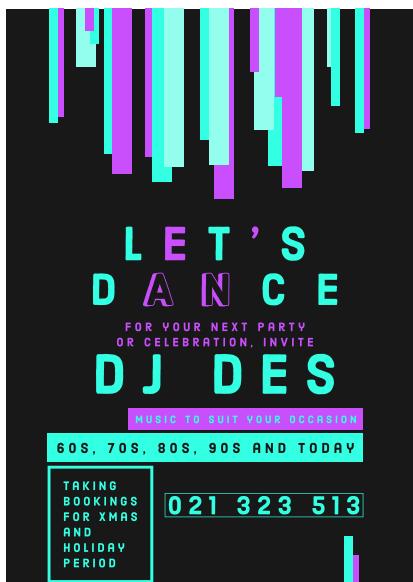
But in reality, the responsibility falls squarely on DTLB.

On 10 December 2019, all but one member, Trish Deans, made a decision on spraying, to remove Onehunga weed – without community consultation, full research and without seeking non-chemical solutions.

This was inconsistent with Devonport’s long-standing 30-year, chemical-free policy – a groundbreaking policy leading the way in New Zealand and internationally in protecting the environment and public health.

I implore our local-board members, rather than publicly bickering over this issue, to think about the example they are setting and to fulfill the responsibility of their community-elected positions.

**Sharon Byron-McKay  
TAG (Toxin Action Group)**

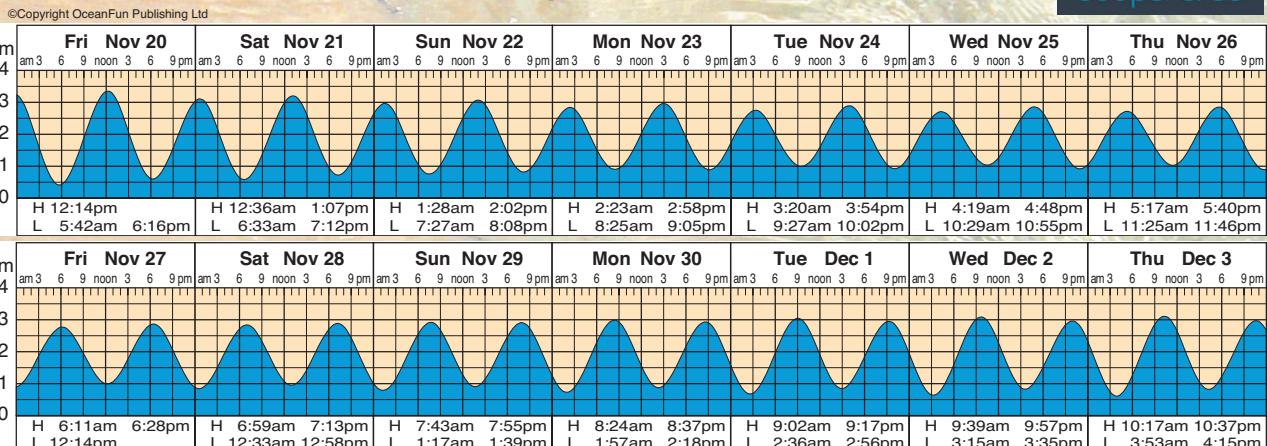


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Mahatma Gandhi

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**1:1 or small group**  
**References available**  
**Janet 021 101 96 95**  
[personaltrainerjanet@gmail.com](mailto:personaltrainerjanet@gmail.com)

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## Spray communications shameful

A meeting with Auckland Council's weed-management staff and the residents living around the perimeter of the Devonport Domain Reserve and the Vauxhall grounds, and anyone else who wanted to talk through spraying issues, would have had a good result.

It was a brave decision of council staff to instigate an informal meeting. I was happy to attend, as I have always attended meetings where different points of view would be discussed. It's a norm for Devonport. Unwisely, the chair of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board interfered and instructed staff not to proceed.

As a local-board member and having been appointed to the council's Weed Management Policy Advisory Group, I have a wider role to play. I have interpreted this to mean that I should ensure that the council's health-and-safety objectives would always be followed. I had hoped to discuss with council staff the obligations to be met when using agri-chemicals in a residential area and to ensure that all Devonport residents were informed and could trust that these steps would ensure their safety. There are specific steps to be taken when spraying in a public-amenities area and where nearby children's playgrounds are located.

North Shore City Council wrote our legacy policy and was specific about the conditions and necessary notifications to be issued to the public.

In summary: there were to be appropriate public notices at least 48 hours prior in local newspapers and council publications; notices in the parks that specified dates, times and outlined weather conditions; all contractor vehicles had to be suitably identified with names and contact phone numbers; no application of herbicide was to be applied between 8–9am and 3–4pm Monday to Friday; all weed-spraying was to be undertaken at suitable times, and these times were not to conflict with peak pedestrian movement in the particular location and in the vicinity of schools, preschools and public assembly; all signage was to remain on the field for 48 hours after spraying.

These were cautionary measures, that allowed for residents with respiratory illnesses, allergies and pre-existing health conditions to take steps to avoid contact with an area that had been sprayed. Being given notification in advance, and that was highly visible on the field, allowed individuals to make a decision about how they would open and close windows, keep their children and pets on or off the fields, and make choices in relation to their own experiences and preferences. These were cautionary measures, which reflected a council practice that erred on the side of caution and risk avoidance.

The notification measures that were used on Monday 2 November from 6 to 8.30 am were restricted to only that period of time. Residents have reported that if there were notification signs they were not visible, and that the second letter drop did not reach a substantial number

of households.

Council staff assured me that only the sports field areas were sprayed and that the playground on King Edward Pde was not affected as it was at least 30 metres away from the spray area. There were some field-closed signs at the entry points, but these did not explain the reason for the closure. I am assured that there were staff at the parks from 6am to 8.30am to talk to any public that raised concerns. These measures may have had some effect.

But the question remains: did the residents who continued to use the public domain throughout the day and, later in the afternoon, including those involved in a children's touch-rugby event, realise that the fields had been sprayed that morning?

The ambiguity that has surrounded the notification of the spraying is a cause for concern and may not have informed the users of the fields. This ad hoc approach to health and safety should not have happened.

I was not informed of any of these arrangements until 10am of Monday morning. I cannot verify that the notification measures met the threshold of "effective communication" as outlined in the Auckland Council Weed Management Policy.

This is shameful. An informed community is always better able to reach consensus and better outcomes and, as an elected member, I need to be able to assure you that the local board "conducts its business in an open, transparent, and democratically accountable manner" (Local Govt Act).

This shouldn't be a matter that becomes a personal spat at the local board. It's about the need to carefully consider the needs of the community and guarantee that all residents were fully informed.

**Trish Deans,  
Devonport-Takapuna Local Board  
member**



**DEVONPORT  
PENINSULA TRUST**  
Making Community Happen

**OUT & ABOUT**

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

**RAUMATI/SUMMER FUN  
PRESCHOOL PLAY**

**Tuesdays, Windsor Reserve Devonport  
& Thursdays, Bayswater Park, Bayswater**

**Starting 3 November, 9:30am–11.00am Cost: Free**

Fun times for preschoolers to play with big toys, be active and to make new friends. Come and enjoy our beautiful parks! Caregiver supervision is required and sessions are weather and Covid alert level 2 or 1 dependent. For further info please contact Maria on 09 445 9533 / 027 924 3494 or maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz or visit: www.devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

**SCOTTY BREWER SKATE DAY**

**Saturday 21 November, 10:00am–3:00pm  
Ngatirangi Skatepark, Devonport. Cost: free**

All ages welcome. U10s, U13s, U16s, open and girls divisions. Cash prizes to be won! A smoke-free and alcohol-free event. Food and drink for sale. Rain date: Saturday 28th November.

**DEVONPORT LIONS  
SANTA PARADE & DEVONPORT  
CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL**

**Sunday 6 December, 11am–3pm  
Windsor Reserve, Devonport Waterfront**

Commencing with Devonport Lions Santa Parade, at 11am and then afterwards in Windsor Reserve until 3pm, Dance in the Park, the Devonport Craft & Fine Food Market, Devonport Volunteer Fire Brigade combat zone, food stalls, and more. For information about the Parade contact Bruce Wetherall: bruce\_wetherall@hotmail.com. For info about the Festival contact Maria: maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

**JETS RUN - TORPEDO BAY NAVY**

**Wednesday, 6pm (register from 5:45pm)**

Following Devonport's picturesque waterfront, course lengths vary and costs are \$6 adult, \$5 child. Participants get the chance to win both spot and place-getter prizes. For more information contact Paul at jetsrun@xtra.co.nz or 0274 379 423.

**Devonport Peninsula Community eNEWS**

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

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



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**OPEN HOME**



**DEVONPORT** 19 KING EDWARD PARADE

**BUY ONE, BUY TWO, BUY ALL THREE!**

Skirting Devonport's historic and exclusive waterfront, these three, two storey townhouses, translate as one enviable opportunity. On the market for the first time since 2000, each offers 2 bdrms, 2 bthrms and one of Auckland's most celebrated addresses and lifestyles.

**TENDER** Closes on 26 Nov 2020 at 4:00pm (unless sold prior)

**VIEWING** Sat-Sun 2 - 2.45pm Wed 6 - 6.45pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/800301](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/800301)

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

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

**CLOSING THIS WEEK**



**DEVONPORT** 35A MERANI STREET

**PRIVATE HAVEN - NARROW NECK!**

Built in 2004, this welcoming, two storey home with a floor area of approximately 188m<sup>2</sup>, has been carefully thought through to give its owners options for different ages and stages of life. Flexibility of spaces with good indoor/outdoor living, fully-fenced with space for a boat.

**TENDER** Closes on 19 Nov 2020 at 4:00pm (unless sold prior)

**VIEWING** Sat/Sun 12:00-12:45pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/801119](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/801119)

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

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



**DEVONPORT** 8A JUBILEE AVENUE

**GRANDSTAND 'AMERICA'S CUP' VIEWS!**

This superior and stylish two bedroom home is set to tick the boxes for many. Without question, this is a must-see to be truly appreciated – and, with all its attributes, an absolute rarity in this location. To secure these 'Grandstand Cup Views' call to discuss or join us at our open homes.

**TENDER** Closes on 19 Nov 2020 at 4:00pm (unless sold prior)

**VIEWING** By Appointment [www.barfoot.co.nz/800019](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/800019)

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

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

**DEVONPORT** 1/8 NGATARINGA ROAD

**BRICK AND STYLE**

A gorgeous example of a renovated stylish two bedroom unit basking in sunshine and elevated for lovely views. Being the front of four units this is a great start or perhaps a bolt hole for anyone who has an eye for smart investments. Complete with a lockup garage you'll want to see this today.

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

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

**FOR SALE** By Negotiation

**VIEWING** Saturday/Sunday 12:00pm - 12:30pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/801241](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/801241)



**DEVONPORT** 2/65 CHURCH STREET

**CHARMING END UNIT, ONE OF TWO, TOP LOCATION, SAY NO MORE**

Perfectly located on coveted Church Street, this renovated, two bedroom rear unit is one of two units on 704m<sup>2</sup> of prime real estate. Whether you are looking for an investment or lockup and leave, this is one of the best units I have seen.

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

**VIEWING** Phone For Viewing Times [www.barfoot.co.nz/801182](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/801182)

**Kurt Piper**  
021 137 6450  
Devonport 09 445 2010

**DEVONPORT** 5/14A ALBERT ROAD

**SOLD IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS!**

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- Happy Buyer And Seller
- Many Buyers Missed Out
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**Kurt Piper**  
021 137 6450  
Devonport 09 445 2010

**FOR SALE** \$679,000

**VIEWING** Phone For Viewing Times [www.barfoot.co.nz/800693](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/800693)

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**OPEN HOME**



**BAYSWATER** 5 BERESFORD STREET

Right on the water's edge, this has to be Bayswater's best kept secret. If privacy, serenity and sea air are what you have dreamed of, then this is it! Come on home to your tropical paradise with stunning uninterrupted views and private water access. View this fantastic family home before it's gone!

**FOR SALE** By Negotiation

**VIEWING** Saturday/Sunday 1.00 - 1.45pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/801575](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/801575)

**OPEN HOME**



**DEVONPORT** G 06/29 KING EDWARD PARADE

Just metres from the sparkling sands of Torpedo Bay, serenely elegant, the Masonic Townhouses represent the epitome of waterfront living! Luxurious and elegant, lockup and leave, Three bedrooms, 2+ garaging, and stunning views! A rare opportunity to secure 253m<sup>2</sup> of sublime luxury living on Devonport's waterfront! Call now!

**AUCTION** 10:00am 26 Nov 2020 at Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna (unless sold prior)  
**VIEWING** Sat/Sun 12:00-12:45pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/800823](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/800823)



**DEVONPORT** 10 ALLENBY AVENUE

**ALLENBY ALLURE**

Location is what it's all about and with a delightful family friendly home on this hugely popular Avenue you will soon see why so many will want to grab this chance. Here we have a superb example of a character filled transitional villa, sitting on a generous 572m<sup>2</sup> north facing section.

**AUCTION** 10:00am 19 Nov 2020 at Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna (unless sold prior)  
**VIEWING** Phone For Viewing Times [www.barfoot.co.nz/800231](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/800231)

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

**Suzy Wang**  
022 199 7808  
Devonport 09 445 2010



**DEVONPORT** 1/6 LYTTON STREET

**THE BIG - LITTLE HOUSE ON LYTTON STREET**

Three double bedrooms, two bathrooms, separate laundry, separate lounge with two sets of French doors leading you out to the wrap around verandah. Stunning kitchen/dining flow out to a covered deck.

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

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

**AUCTION** 12:00pm 24 Nov 2020 at Devonport office (unless sold prior)  
**VIEWING** Sat/Sun 3:00-3:45pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/801895](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/801895)



**DEVONPORT** 25 ANNE STREET

**PREMIUM LOCATION AND CHARM**

IT DOESN'T GET MUCH BETTER THAN THIS! This special property is a rare find in Anne Street, one of the most desirable streets in the heart of the Devonport seaside village. Homes such as this do not often come onto the market so call today.

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

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

**AUCTION** 10:00am 26 Nov 2020 at Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna (unless sold prior)  
**VIEWING** Sat/Sun 2.00-2.45pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/800868](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/800868)



**TAKAPUNA** 21B HAURAKI ROAD

**TAKAPUNA BEACH - SAND AND SUN!**

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This Cedar townhouse offers you the desired lifestyle of living just metres from stunning Takapuna beach. This is the perfect entry level opportunity into this multi million dollar road. Call us for your private viewing.

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

**AUCTION** 10:00am 3 Dec 2020 at Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna (unless sold prior)  
**VIEWING** Sat/Sun 12.00-12.30pm [www.barfoot.co.nz/801717](http://www.barfoot.co.nz/801717)

# Devonport Rotary Club



*Now welcoming new members!*

## And a Ho Ho Ho to you!

November is a busy Month for Rotary and with Christmas just around the corner you will bump into many of our club members helping out around the community.

On Saturday the 21st there is the Scotty Brewer Skate Day at Ngatarima Skatepark. This day was established to commemorate the life of Scotty Brewer, the son of Craig and Jacki Brewer both long time members of the club, who tragically died at the age of 16. It is now an established event in Devonport and a fabulous outlet for local youth to showcase their skateboarding talents.

Something new this year for the Rotary Club of Devonport is our special Christmas pop up shop to help raise funds for the local community.

You will find it located next to Harcourts in Clarence Street and it will operate on Friday the 27th and Saturday the 28th November with opening hours of 9 to 5.

Selling a number of Christmas themed items and beautifully decorated Christmas Cakes make sure you pop down and visit, grab a tea or cup of coffee and purchase a ticket in our special Christmas Raffle.

On the following Sunday the 29th you will also find us helping out at the St Leos Christmas Fair.

As you can see Rotary is very much at the heart of your community and we look forward to meeting you.

We are grateful to Rowan Renouf who helped us source the shop in Devonport.

If you'd like to support us, then please contact Devonport Rotary at [info@devonportrotary.co.nz](mailto:info@devonportrotary.co.nz) or visit [www.devonportrotary.co.nz](http://www.devonportrotary.co.nz)

This month's column was sponsored by  
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# Feedback adds to area's guiding plan

Environment and heritage, and transport and access, were the two areas of focus chosen by community members asked which outcomes they ranked as most important in the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Plan.

Both received 28 per cent backing in public submissions.

Water quality was accepted by the board as being very important to the public, with preserving heritage and cultural features also rated highly, along with improving road congestion.

Linking to the Northern Pathway, improving feeder bus services and Sunnynook bus station, and seeing a Bayswater ferry terminal built were among the stated aims of the plan, which is drawn up three-yearly.

Advocacy for a second harbour crossing was emphasised.

As a direct result of feedback taken over a month in July and August, the protection of the lava flow and fossil forest along the Takapuna-Milford coastline was added to the plan.

The need for heritage features, including cemeteries, to be cared for with expert oversight, such as from Heritage New Zealand and Auckland Council's heritage unit, was another addition. So too, community concerns that tackling Lake Rd congestion be done as quickly as possible and for footpaths to be maintained in a good state, both requiring working with Auckland Transport.

The plan noted that Covid-19 had hit council budgets, meaning some projects would be done over longer time frames than the community was asking for. Working with

community groups and volunteers was one way some aims could be met and changes encouraged.

The plan noted in its section on parks, facilities and open spaces that some community assets were ageing. Reviews of the use of those in Takapuna would continue. An upgrade or extension to Sunnynook Community Centre, which was operating at capacity, would be advocated as a priority. Barrys Point Reserve could be better used, so options for further facilities would be investigated.

To enhance community participation and well-being, working with groups was considered vital, with a challenge to include mana whenua, the young, families and ethnic communities. To assist embedding Maori values, shared environmental goals with the Maunga Authority were recognised and use of te reo Maori could be encouraged in signage and council programmes and services.

Supporting the three main town centres of Takapuna, Milford and Devonport would continue, working with business groups and encouraging regional tourism. But smaller centres needed support as well, such as Sunnynook, Smales Farm, Barrys Point Rd and the Belmont and Hauraki areas.

Local Board Plans are required every three years. This guides board activity, funding and investment and feeds into the council's 10-year budget plans.

More than half of the 297 individuals and groups who made submissions mostly agreed the plan reflected their needs and wants, and one-quarter strongly agreed it did so.

# Youth have plenty to say

Submissions by young people made up more than two-thirds of feedback on the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board plan. Key areas of interest were safe places to gather, transport and the environment.

Younite, a group set up to give young people a voice in local democracy, rounded up 192 submissions – four times the number of youth submissions received previously.

The young people did this partly by approaching local high schools and setting up lunchtime sessions to brief interested students and urge them to share their views in written submissions.

Three members of Younite spoke to the board's most recent meeting to outline their work, which has been supported by Auckland Council staff. They said they wanted to demonstrate their value to the board as a

connection with young people in its area.

Younite member Michael de Boyett said: "After this, a lot more students will now know what the board does and may come to it."

Younite gave as achievements its doubling membership; encouraging of youth awareness of the board plan through a social media campaign, including video; and spreading the word about new youth facility Shore Junction.

Younite is now represented on the Shore Junction advisory group. It wants to encourage more youth to use the creative space on Northcote Rd.

Aims for the future included getting schools beyond Westlake Girls High School and Takapuna Grammar on board.

The board thanked Younite for its work helping with community consultation and received its presentation to the meeting.

**BAYLEYS****NEW LISTING**

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### **Family favourite opposite the beach**

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[bayleys.co.nz/1451272](http://bayleys.co.nz/1451272)



**Auction (unless sold prior)**

1.30pm, Thu 10 Dec 2020

28 Northcroft Street, Takapuna

**View** Sun 1.45-2.15pm or by appointment

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# Vauxhall School celebrates 100 years



**Old boys... (from left) Rex Neary (79) 1946–49; Keith Humphreys (75) 1950–58; Warren Moor (74) 1951–59; David Little (74) 1951–58; Peter Elmsly (73), 1952–59 at the Vauxhall School centenary celebrations**



**Trailblazing... Vauxhall School's pupils walk through its new garden, Ngahere Puawai, after the official opening**

Vauxhall School hosted 550 people at its centenary celebrations on 7 November.

Parents and former students and teachers were welcomed by the school's kapa haka group and choir.

Former principals Peter Mulcahy, Jenny Anstiss and Maggie Twaddle spoke of their time at the school, widely known for being a leading proponent of multi-year open-plan classrooms.

He Ngahere Puawai – a centenary garden – was officially opened. It includes 350 plants, every student having planted one to mark the occasion.

Principal Gary Lawrence said that when the centenary year was launched in February, organisers had no idea what a difficult year 2020 would turn out to be due to Covid-19.

Many families could spend extra time together in their bubbles, while others faced financial struggles and other difficulties.

Through it all, the spirit at Vauxhall School had remained strong, “belonging together” and “looking after each other”, said Lawrence.

A Vauxhall Junior Baking Competition was won by Katie Tucker (8), of year 4. Second was Scarlett Riddington (6), year 2, while Allegra Smith (10), year 5, was third.

The school surveyed former pupils on the house they lived in when they attended Vauxhall School over the past 100 years. The joint winners (six families each) were 60 Wairoa Rd and 11 Oxford Terrace.

Later in the day, a mix-and-mingle function was held at North Shore Rugby Club.



**Former principals...(left to right) Peter Mulcahy, Jenny Anstiss and Maggie Twaddle**



**Centenary culinary curators...**  
**(from left) Colleen Krzanich,**  
**Kim Westgate and Sally Scovell**  
**with the food for the day,**  
**provided by parents**  
**Above: former pupil Catherine**  
**Fairbairn (now Takapuna**  
**Grammar School Head Girl)**  
**was inspired by her years at**  
**Vauxhall School**

# Bayswater terminal back on the wish list

Upgrading the Bayswater ferry terminal is one of three priorities Devonport-Takapuna Local Board members are pushing to have included in Auckland Council's 10-year plan.

"It's not a terminal, it's a shed," says Trish Deans, who along with fellow board member Toni van Tonder recently presented the priorities to the council.

The other items they pushed for were:

- A walkway and cycleway in Hauraki, linking Francis St to Esmonde Rd. This could potentially create a recreational route right up the peninsula to Takapuna and across the motorway to link into the SkyPath that will eventually connect the North Shore and the city.

- A targeted water rate for Healthy Waters, with a view to enabling the council department to fulfill multi-stage plans to clean up Wairau Estuary and ultimately improve water quality in the stream flowing to Milford beach and Castor Bay. (This priority was pushed in conjunction with the Kaipatiki Local Board, which shares the estuary catchment).

## Appetite for activity

After the year's lockdowns, local people are looking at doing more activities, Devonport Community House manager Bernie Ranford says. A good uptake in activities at the centre had resulted, ranging from yoga to a recently started "stitch and bitch" evening.

Affordability was an attraction, with an example being tai-chi sessions for just \$2, she told the Devonport Peninsula Trust's recent community forum. The house was looking to restart a Sunday art-and-craft market, Ranford also reported. It hoped to coincide the first one with the Devonport Christmas parade on Sunday 6 December.

## Christmas countdown

Devonport Business Improvement District (BID) manager Shaulyn van Baren is counting down to what will be the group's first big event of a Covid-disrupted year, community get-together 'Friday After Five', on 4 December. She hopes it will really get the Christmas season started.

Normally held in Clarence St in mid-October, the event's moving to a warmer time of year and coming on the same weekend as Devonport's Christmas parade, promises a festive start to the weekend. Expect food vendors and street games, and entertainers later in the evening.

## Preschool play

Summer-fun preschool play sessions have resumed and will run in Windsor Reserve each Tuesday and at Bayswater Park on Thursdays, both from 9.30am to 11am.

The free sessions will end for the year on 8 December and 10 December respectively, said Devonport Community Coordinator Maria Teape.

All 21 of the city's local boards were given brief speaking slots to advance their priorities at a workshop session of the council's Finance & Performance Committee. Getting major projects into the 10-year plan is a key step to having planning and design work factored in and budgets set aside, but until they enter shorter-term plans it is not a guarantee that work will proceed.

Deans outlined to the Devonport Peninsula Trust's community forum held last week what she and van Tonder had presented to councillors.

Van Tonder told the Flagstaff later that the long-term plan would be firmed up in December with the community able to provide feedback to the council in a consultative process from 15 February to 15 March next year.

Deans also presented the main areas covered in the local board's separate own three-year plan, finalised after public submissions (see page 26). Deans noted that Auckland Council's Covid-related budget shortfall, now blown out

to \$1 billion, would inevitably impact on council work programmes.

"There's lots of agreement, but there was one sticking point," said Deans of the local-board plan, which was passed last month on the chairman's casting vote.

Deans and members Ruth Jackson and Jan O'Connor abstained. They considered that endorsing the plan's section on growth would hide their ongoing objection to how Panuku, the council's development arm, is reshaping the Takapuna car park into a town square and metropolitan centre, including by selling public land for multi-storey buildings. They failed to win support for an amendment to have reference to the Unlock Takapuna project removed from the plan.

Board chair Aidan Bennett, deputy chair George Wood and van Tonder considered it as a major project which they supported and it was integral to the plan.

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# Sweet treats raise funds for SPCA

Students at St Leo's Catholic School have taken a hands-on approach to helping out, by whipping up cupcakes to raise funds for the SPCA.

Year 6 pupil Alice Gillies suggested the school back the animal-welfare organisation's annual SPCA Cupcake Day. It soon became a project across the school's year 4, 5 and 6 classes.

Rather than just bringing in food made at home or bought from stores, the children cooked the cupcakes at school.

Teachers helped them plan the process, from making posters promoting the day, to baking and icing and then selling their sweet treats.

New World Devonport donated some of the ingredients.

Sales from the day raised \$300 for the SPCA.

St Leo's principal Maureen Harris said: "I loved that the whole event was child-driven and they were showing concern for their community."



**Tempting treats... St Leo's pupils (from left) Danny Mills, Jacob McGivern and Luke George were happy to support the SPCA Cupcake Day**

## Letters to the Editor

Letters are welcome. Please limit to 300 words on Devonport-related topics. Nom-de-plumes or submissions without a name will not be printed. Email to news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz or post to Devonport Flagstaff, PO Box 32 275, Devonport.

## St Leo's fair does Christmas

St Leo's Catholic School has chosen a Christmas theme for its annual fair, which this year is scheduled for Sunday 29 November.

A Santa's grotto will be on-site for meetings and photographs with Father Christmas.

Games and activities will pick up on the

theme, and Christmas crafts and gifts will be on sale, along with the usual baking and preserves, raffles and plant sales and a bouncy castle.

During the day, there will be live performances of carols from local school choirs. The event will run from 10am to 2pm.

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# Takapuna Grammar

SCHOOL NEWS



Grammer  
NOV 20, 2020



2020's head prefects stand for a photo with principal Mary Nixon post-prizegiving. This year's head prefects were Tayla Wheeler, Libby Easterbrook, Connor Cowie, Will Dalzell (absent), Jake Avram (Head Boy) and Catherine Fairbairn (Head Girl).

## 2020 Senior Prizegiving Award Winners

Congratulations to all the major award winners from the 2020 Senior Prizegiving held on Wednesday 28 October at the Bruce Mason Theatre.

**They are as follows:**

1970 Prefects Cup  
for Sportsman of the Year  
*Evan Williams*

Sandie Wiltshire Cup  
for Sportswoman of the Year  
*Natalie Sayes*

Cleverdon Cup for All Round Effort  
and School Spirit in Year 11  
*Phoebe Rennie*

White Cup for All Round Effort  
and School Spirit in Year 12  
*Tessa Renneberg*

Spooner Cup for Best School Spirit  
Overall in Year 13  
*Ruby Worrall*

June Spooner Award  
for Academic Excellence Year 11  
*Victoria (Tori) Johnson*

June Spooner Award  
for Academic Excellence Year 12  
*Andy Wu*

Summa Cum Laude  
for Academic Excellence Year 13  
*Will Dalzell*

Summa Cum Laude  
for Academic Excellence Year 13  
*Sam Cordner*

Summa Cum Laude  
for Academic Excellence Year 13  
*Holly Wakelin*

Summa Cum Laude  
for Academic Excellence Year 13  
*Pippi Duncan*

Summa Cum Laude  
for Academic Excellence Year 13  
*Anna De Boyett*

June Spooner Award  
for Academic Excellence in Year 13  
and Proxime Accessit  
*Alana Rodrigues-Birch*



June Spooner Award  
for Academic Excellence in Year 13  
and Proxime Accessit  
*Aislin Wells*

The Dux Cup  
for Academic Excellence in Year 13  
and Dux of the School  
*Evelyn Campbell (pictured)*

# Hallelujah! Another BIS Idol crowned



**Singing stars... Belmont Intermediate School Idol winner Ruby Jacobs (centre) with second-place soloist Milla Rodrigues-Birch (right) and third-place soloist Chamonix Brand**

Belmont Intermediate student Ruby Jacobs has won this year's School Idol competition, singing *Hallelujah* by Leonard Cohen.

Her prize was a guitar donated by David Martin Motors, which is based in Wynyard St, Devonport.

"I have been singing for as long as I can remember. The first stage performance I did, I must have been about six years old. It was a talent contest, and I sang a short song in front of the entire school. I didn't win, but it was my first real taste of performing. That first performance got me hooked," said Ruby.

Ruby chose to sing *Hallelujah* because she learnt the song when she was just eight years old and in her first school choir. "I had so much joy singing that song with all my friends, and I

have so many happy memories of it," she said.

She is hoping to pursue a singing career but she also loves to act. Her dream job would be singing on Broadway or acting in a musical movie.

"I always get a bit nervous when I go for an audition, but that wouldn't stop me from entering. If I'm being honest, I think I was a bit more nervous in the audition than I was in the finals, but I've found that being a bit nervous helps me focus," said Ruby, who has been learning with Devonport-based singing teacher Olivia Webb for more than a year.

In the solo-performances category, Milla Rodrigues-Birch came second to Ruby, singing Bic Runga's *Sway*, and Chamonix Brand was third with her version of *Bellyache* by

Billie Eilish.

The winning duo were Reese Thomas and Charlotte Wiggins, who sang Adele's *Set Fire to the Rain*. Eleanor and Isobel Johnston, singing *A Million Dreams* by Ben Pasek and Justin Paul, were second.

The judges for the final performances were Belmont Primary School music teacher Catherine Peake, former leader of the Devonport Choir Helene Piper and Belmont Intermediate school counsellor Brett Sawyer, an experienced musician.

The contest attracted 21 solo entries and four duos. "The standard was very high and the judges found it challenging to select those to perform in the final," said the school's head of performing arts Robyn Norwell.

## Helping hand for sport and recreation groups

Local groups have benefitted from Sport New Zealand's Community Resilience Fund set up in the wake of Covid-19.

Major beneficiaries, including Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club, were granted up to \$25,000, with smaller groups getting amounts upwards of \$1000.

In all, \$15 million of government money has been distributed nationwide through Regional Sports Trusts to help more than 2000 organisations bridge fixed and operational costs from 1 July to 30 September this year. Applications for this funding closed in September.

Groups funded included: 1st Devonport Scout Group, \$1180; Belmont Park Bowling Club, \$2765; Belmont Park Racquets Club, \$15,267; Belmont Scout Group, \$5000; Calliope Sea Scouts \$3000; Campbells Bay Tennis Club, \$11,894; Devonport Squash Club \$6174; Forrest Hill Milford United AFC, \$24,017; Lake Pupuke Tennis Club, \$5000; North Shore Cricket Club, \$1000; North Shore Rugby Football Club, \$16,020; North Shore United AFC, \$25,000; Milford Bowling Club, \$2863; Milford Cruising Club, \$25,000; Milford Tennis Club \$5000; Stanley Bowling

and Petanque Club, \$4786; Sunnynook Scout Group, \$1631; Takapuna AFC, \$13,650; Takapuna Amateur Athletic & Harrier Club, \$3219; Takapuna Boating Club, \$21,680; Takapuna Bowling Club, \$4903; Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club, \$25,000; Takapuna Rugby Football Club, \$1368; Takapuna Scout Hall, \$3191; Takapuna Tennis Club, \$5142; Wakatere Boating Club, \$12,501.

Regional organisations also benefitted, including Harbour Basketball, Netball North Harbour, North Harbour Gymnastics and North Harbour Hockey, to the tune of \$25,000 each.

# Nuclear-test veterans gather at museum



**Veteran line-up... Peter Major (front right) and photographer Denise Baynham (behind him) with Major's fellow nuclear-test witnesses, who gathered at the Navy Museum recently**

Narrow Neck resident Peter Major joined fellow veterans in a special get-together at the Navy Museum recently to mark an exhibition about their experiences as witnesses to British nuclear tests in the Pacific in 1957 and 1958.

Major, along with his son, daughter and other close family, were among invited guests at the function, attended by 12 of the 19 Royal New Zealand Navy servicemen featured in *Operation Grapple – We Were*

There.

Current Navy personnel and exhibition photographer Denise Baynham were also in attendance for speeches and a morning tea, followed by a group photograph of the men who had travelled from around the country.

News of the exhibition first featured in the Flagstaff last month. Due to Covid-19, it was not possible to arrange an earlier gathering of the servicepeople involved.

"They've done a good job," said Major of

the portraits, of him and the other men, now all in their 80s and 90s. These are displayed with their recollections of the tests and the health after-effects of being in close proximity to the testing.

The vice-president of the New Zealand Nuclear Tests Veterans Association, Tere Tahī, thanked Baynham for her work documenting the men's experiences. It had been 25 years since he set up the group with fellow Manawatu resident Roy Sefton, after realis-



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## exhibition

ing the veterans had shared after-effects of their service. Tahi told the men Sefton had been too ill to attend.

Another of the group, Jerry Wright, has written a book about the history of Operation Grapple. He said that only this year he had found another serviceman, bringing the total known to have been at the tests aboard either HMNZS Rotoiti or Pukaki to 577.

Major, who served on the Rotoiti as a chef and spent a total of eight years in the Navy, attended in a wheelchair, due to a recent fall. He clambered up for the Ode of Remembrance and proudly wore his service medals, including one for a tour to Antarctica.

He has long lived locally, and after his discharge from the Navy, in 1961, worked in construction and concreting across the North Shore, helping build new suburbs such as Glenfield.

Major also used his old cheffing trade for a time, including at the Esplanade Hotel in Devonport, where he remembers the roast dinners.

The 84-year-old suffers from a lung condition, likely caused by serving below decks where pipes were lined in asbestos.

"When we first ventured up there, they didn't say anything about testing, they said it was an island cruise," he told the Flagstaff.

Major was just 17 when he joined the Navy in 1953, and says he was fresh back from a Scout jamboree. Training was on Motuīhe island in the Hauraki Gulf.

Until his recent falls, he liked to head upstairs to the Devonport RSA and, before its closing, he belonged to the RSA in Takapuna. He is also a regular at Anzac Day parades.

Navy Museum programme manager Charis Bose said it was a "day to share stories, experiences and some food".

For the men, their deployment started as a great adventure, but it was also a horrific experience. Reading and curating their personal recollections had brought Baynham to tears. (These include stories of lingering ill-health, post-traumatic stress disorder and family miscarriages, infertility and birth defects.)

Tahi said the stories the men shared at their first conference had been "absolutely disgusting". He and Sefton were still seeking full recognition of their plight and the genetic legacy they now carried. They had felt progress was being made with the last Minister of Defence, Ron Mark, but would need to push their case again with the new Labour line-up and were aware time was against them.

"We need recognition. That's what we want – and from our own Government."

- See the *Operation Grapple* exhibition at the Navy Museum, Torpedo Bay, until 17 January. Open daily from 10am to 5pm, with free admission.



**Highlighting the plight of former servicemen...  
(from left) vice-president of the New Zealand Nuclear Tests  
Veterans Association Tere Tahi, Narrow Neck resident Peter Major  
and photographer Denise Baynham**



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## Pip McNair's Memorial Celebration

To our friends.

Pip's memorial celebration will be held on Sunday 13 December (2pm) at the North Shore Rugby Club, Tui St, Devonport.

Pip passed away peacefully during the first Covid lockdown in April.

Given our alert status since that time we have been unable to hold this until now. We look forward to welcoming as many friends as would like to come. If you have a story to tell, please let us know.

**For queries please contact Callum at [callum@cliponchallenge.co.nz](mailto:callum@cliponchallenge.co.nz)**



**NORTH SHORE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB AGM**

Notice is hereby given that the 149th Annual General Meeting of the North Shore Rugby Football Club Inc. will be held in the Clubrooms, 29 Cambridge Tce, Devonport on Tuesday 24th November 2020 at 7pm.

**Agenda:**

1. Apologies
2. Obituaries
3. Confirmation of 149th AGM minutes
4. 2020 Annual reports
5. 2020 Financial report
6. Subscriptions for 2021
7. Election of Officers and Committee
8. Service Awards
9. North Harbour
10. General Business

Paul Cornish  
Club Manager



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### PUBLIC NOTICES

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**Wanted: long term rental** Devonport/Bayswater/Belmont. Executive rental up to \$1700pw. Minimum 4 bedrooms for family of four. Start date early February 2021 (flexible) for minimum 12-month tenancy, possibly longer. References available. Please phone: David 021 277 4060.

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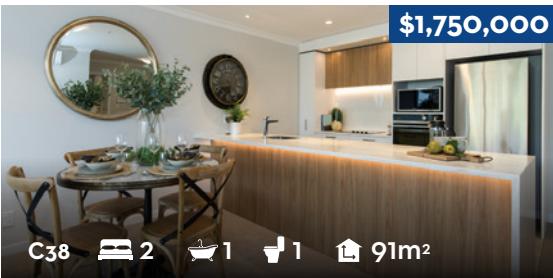
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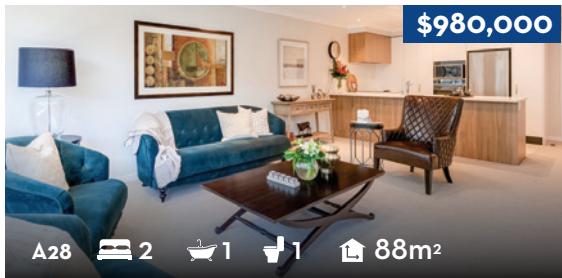


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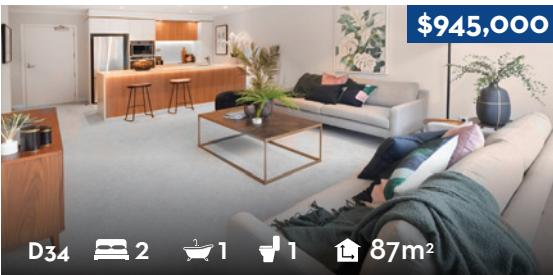
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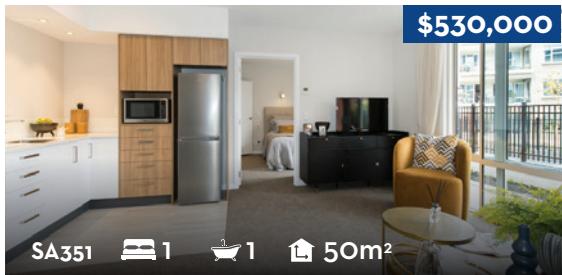
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## New cricket facility giving TGS teams the edge

The Takapuna Grammar School (TGS) girls 1st cricket XI is preparing to represent Auckland in the National Secondary Schools Championships next month, where the team will compete against the best sides of each region.

Leading up to the three-day competition starting on 11 December in Palmerston North, TGS's new indoor cricket facility has been a game changer, says the school's Director of Cricket Michael Tillett.

"In the past, the school, including North Shore Cricket Club, have had to travel to Massey University to play cricket. Now we are lucky to have something on-site. The students love it," says Tillett.

In the last few training sessions for the school's boys and girls teams, rain prevented outdoor training, but practice could go ahead indoors, giving them an advantage heading into the summer season.

In terms of the community, says Tillett, the new facility is one of the best cricket nets on the North Shore.

The North Shore Cricket Club can use it, along with the wider community in the coming weeks, through a booking system.

Tillett says the girls' 1st XI aims to win the national title.

Captain Anna Browning, though only in year 12, has been selected for the Auckland Hearts senior representative squad and has been the driving force behind the 1st XI's success as Auckland Champions for 2020 and TGS team of the year.

The boys 1st XI cricket team began the second-tier 1B competition last month, with the aim of winning promotion into the premier competition. In their first game of the season, they defeated Pakuranga College, bowling them out for 80, thanks to Zak Beaumont who took five wickets, including a hat-trick.

Jack Clough, set to captain the team next year – and be head boy – scored 43 not out off 26 balls.

The second game, against Macleans College, was abandoned due to wet weather. In the third game, TGS had a disappointing narrow defeat to Mt Roskill Grammar by 10 runs. Max Clarke was the standout in this match, scoring 44 and taking two wickets. "Roskill's openers bowled



**Net result... Takapuna Grammar School Director of Cricket Michael Tillett is delighted with the school's new indoor cricket facility**

with real venom and Max Clarke and Christian Scott did a great job blunting their attack," says Tillett.

The 1st XI's newest player is 15-year-old Daniel Middleton.

The boys have three more Saturdays to play this term before starting up again in January. They will also have exchange games against St

Peter's Cambridge and Hamilton Boys.

"Cricket takes a little bit of a back seat sometimes because we are a rugby nation," says Tillett. "But we want to give kids the opportunity to do something different in summer and get them outside too."

- Last Saturday the 1st XI boys lost to Sacred Heart College by 13 runs.

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# North Shore cricket set to bring the fireworks

The North Shore Cricket Club premiers have the potential to be the most explosive side in the Auckland competition this season.

Up-and-coming juniors Jock McKenzie, Simon Keene and Riley Mudford have all graduated to the premier team as regular starters.

"We've warned our supporters to strap themselves in – we could be a bit like a great fireworks display, but we could also fizzle a little bit," said premiers coach Chris Reid.

It was widely known in Auckland Cricket circles that North Shore had the most promising group of juniors amongst the premier club teams, and Shore's title hopes may depend on how quickly the young guns develop, he said.

Both McKenzie and Keene played for the New Zealand under-19 side, with Keene recently picked for the Auckland A team.

Mckenzie would be batting for North Shore this year after playing a "sprinkling" of games for the premiers over the last few seasons. A stress fracture in his back had ruled him out of bowling.

Mudford is a "very rare talent – a natural ball striker," Reid said.

North Shore was continuing its programme of promoting the more

promising young players to open the batting in T20 matches, with McKenzie, Keene and Mudford to the fore this year.

In the two-day matches they are batting at three, six and seven respectively.

For an opening batsman in the two-day matches, the premiers have acquired Hemadri Chakraborty from Birkenhead. He previously played first-class cricket in India.

Back this summer are proven campaigners Mike Olsen, Mike Duncraft and Ronnie Hira.

Shore showed great promise in its first match of the season against defending champions Parnell, looking set for a win before rain forced a draw.

Their first real test is a two-day game against Suburbs New Lynn – probably the best team on paper this season, according to Reid. Scores after the first day on last weekend were evenly poised with Suburbs posting 127 and 33-0 against North Shore's first innings of 95.

Shore plays away matches for the first month of the season, including for its first T20 game, against East Coast Bays at Windsor Park on 9 December.



**Full of promise... Jock McKenzie has graduated from being a top schoolboy cricketer at Westlake Boys High School (above) to the North Shore premier side**

# Smooth sailing to the Cup

## The 36th America's Cup, presented by Prada, is coming to Auckland.

From 17th - 20th December, the America's Cup World Series and Christmas Race events will be held on the Waitemata Harbour.

There are 5 possible courses, with the final course selection announced on the morning of each race day, according to the weather. The races will then take place between 3 - 6pm.

### What does this mean for Devonport?

Devonport will be a popular destination for the event, so residents might want to plan ahead and be prepared for possible delays and congestion.

**Possible delays** AT and Fullers staff will do everything they can to run to normal ferry timetables, but speed restrictions on the harbour and plenty of spectators will impact journey times.

**Timetable changes** From about midday on race days there may be timetable changes. We'll publish all changes to sailings in advance. Use the AT Journey Planner or AT Mobile app to help you make your travel plans and stay ahead of any changes.

**For more information, visit [at.govt.nz/americascup](http://at.govt.nz/americascup)**



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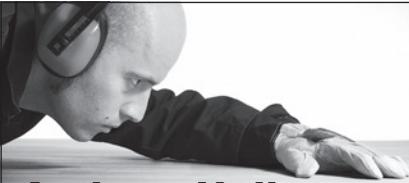
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# 20 years ago from the Flagstaff files

- The long-running battle to prevent a cell-phone site transmitter being located near Devonport Primary is lost when North Shore City Council offers a consent to Vodafone to erect a site at 34 Mays St.
- Anna Sheridan (12) is working on the film *Her Majesty*, after starring in *Shortland Street* and William Shatner's ghost series on Sky TV. Around 70 Belmont Intermediate students joined Anna to shoot scenes at Devonport 3 Cinemas.
- An empty King Edward Pde house is torched, just hours after a group of drunken youths held a party at the waterfront property. Two neighbours suffered smoke inhalation.
- Luke Williamson's book: *Gone Surfing, The Golden Years of Surfing In New Zealand 1950-1970* hits the top 10 of the New Zealand best-seller list.
- A Cheltenham townhouse is on the market for \$375,000.



**Flagstaff interview subject...**  
**Lisa Reid**

- Pam Chapman is appointed as the new Devonport Community Coordinator.
- Bayswater Community Committee secretary John Campbell, North Shore Mayor George Wood and Rebecca French bury a time capsule to mark the opening of the 414m long, 1.05m wide Birkley sewer tunnel.
- Hazel Brown, who lived 90 years without the internet, joins up to the new SeniorNet club to learn the online basics and send emails to family members.
- Devonport Lions Club wins a national award for club excellence ahead of 56 other clubs.
- Olympic great Barbara Kendall visits Belmont Primary School with her medals: one gold, one silver and one bronze.
- Lisa Reid is the Flagstaff interview subject.



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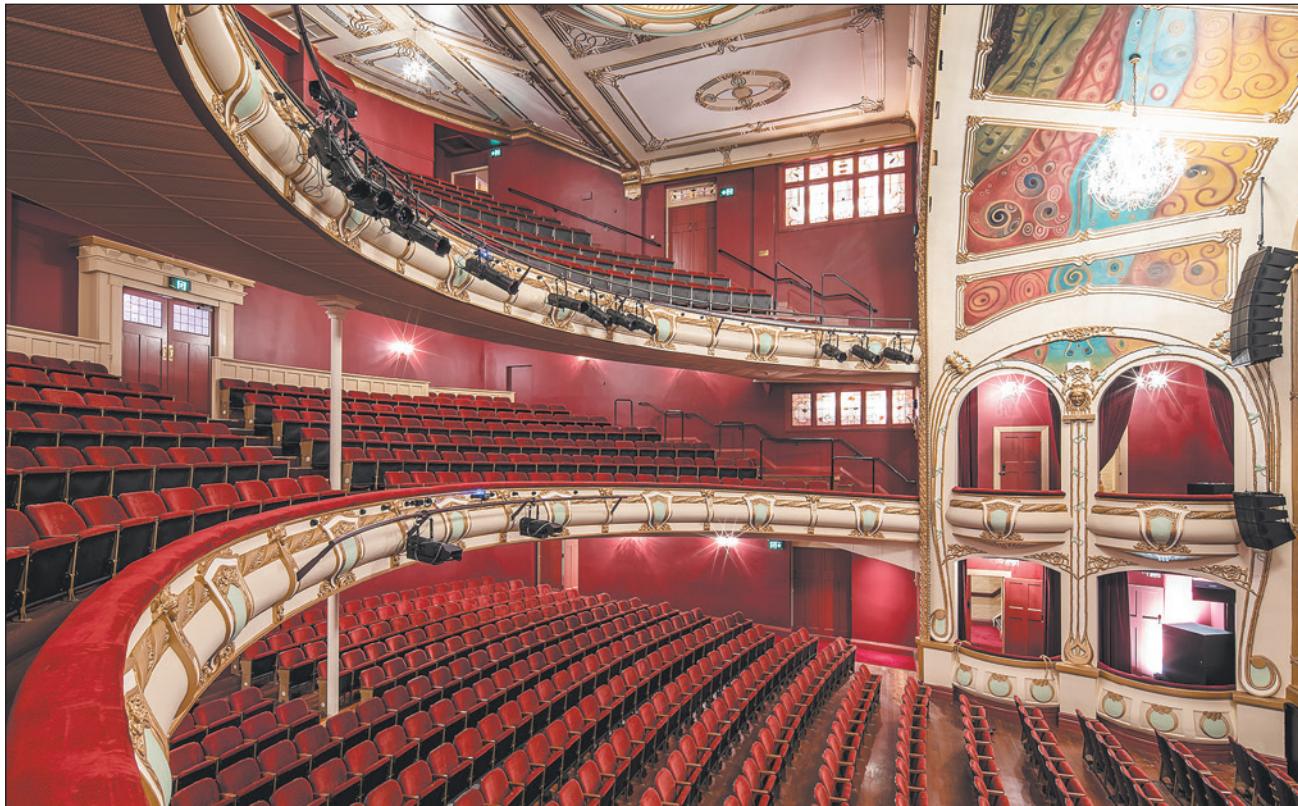
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# Devonport firm snares national heritage award



**True colours... Dave Pearson Architects worked on the \$11-million Hawke's Bay Opera House upgrade for around three years**



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Dave Pearson Architects has won a prestigious national heritage award for work upgrading the Hawke's Bay Opera House.

In addition to the New Zealand Institute of Architects heritage award, the Devonport firm also won a national Resene Colour Award for its new colour scheme in the building.

The firm worked on the \$11 million project for around three years.

The restoration included structural upgrading and complete refurbishment of the venue, including the auditorium and foyer areas, with the new colour scheme throughout.

## In the pink

A Pink Ribbon collection in Devonport during October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, raised \$4427.

"A very big thank you to the people of Devonport," said Bayley's estate agent Lynda Betts, who organised the street collection by volunteers and a raffle with goods donated by local businesses. "A great team effort!" said Betts.

The money raised helps fund breast-cancer education, research, advocacy and patient support.

## Spray and walk away – boards left to battle with budgets

A standardised road-edge spray policy across Auckland has been rejected by councillors in favour of council allowing its local boards to pick their own methods of weed control.

The catch is that spray budgets will now be standardised. This means those boards, including Devonport-Takapuna, that have historically spent more to use hot water rather than chemicals, face tough choices.

“It sounds like we will get a reduction in funding,” said local-board member Trish Deans, who attended the council’s Environment and Climate Change Committee, where the matter was decided last week.

Officials had pushed for all boards to use the same sprays, a cost-saving policy which, if adopted, would have halved the total use of the controversial (but cheap) spray glyphosate, but seen much more of it applied in central and North Shore areas.

Deans told the Flagstaff many councillors believed Devonport-Takapuna had the gold standard of weed management, but that the northern boards were being subsidised.

“They have not given credit to our local boards for instigating the approach to recognise the health-and-safety issues that have led council to now take this issue seriously.”

At the meeting, Mayor Phil Goff said extending North Shore methods citywide would require \$10 million to \$11 million, which was simply not available.

Councillors also considered that legacy funding was not equitable 10 years after local-body amalgamation.

Local boards had been canvassed on their views. Those in the south and west, where glyphosate was widely used, had supported the standardised spray policy. Others, including Devonport-Takapuna, were opposed, saying it removed long-established local choice.

Committee chair and North Shore councillor Richard Hills, who personally opposes glyphosate use, brokered a pragmatic approach.

This sees each board being funded on the same per-kilometre basis for the roads they have to spray, meeting the council’s commitments to equity.

Hill’s successful recommendations made provision for locally selected spray methods to be used, provided that required additional funding be met from within the board’s own budgets.

The Community Facilities department was also asked to continue to investigate and prioritise weed-management options that include non-agrichemical methodologies, the use of zero- or low-emission vehicles, and non-potable water.

Committee deputy chair Pippa Coom, who seconded the motion, said it gave clear direction on outcome rather than being a one-size-fits-all approach.

Earlier in the meeting, council officials

came in for a grilling from councillors on not being able to provide requested information, including what the region-wide operational budget for weed management was, and around consultation with mana whenua.

Albany ward councillor Wayne Walker used the Official Information Act to obtain contractor spray costs that were considerably below those quoted by council staff to justify their recommendations.



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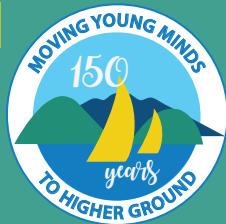
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# Notable women inspire others

Three peninsula powerhouses will speak at Devonport Library next week in a public session entitled *Inspirational Women in our Community*.

Devonport residents Margot McRae and Barbara Cuthbert will be joined by Julia Durkin, who lives in Hauraki, for the Library Associates event on Tuesday 24 November.

Each woman has been recognised for community service and will talk about HER experiences in a question-and-answer evening, explained the associates co-chair Jan Mason.

McRae, a filmmaker and playwright, co-chairs Devonport Heritage and the Victoria Theatre Trust. She was a member of the former Devonport Community Board, with a particular interest in planning issues.

Cuthbert, a town planner, is also a cycling advocate who, since 2008, has been chair of Bike Auckland, working with council and government agencies to promote cycling.

Durkin is the founder and director of the Auckland Festival of Photography, which she launched in 2003. The free event is the longest-running celebration of photography in Australasia.

The question-and-answer (Q&A) session with the trio will be chaired by Karren Beanland, a Devonport communications professional and former administrator at the Michael King Writers' Centre.

The event theme coincides with November being the month that women first voted in New Zealand, said Mason. The right to suffrage passed into law in September 1893 and women lined up to be the first in the world to cast their ballots in a general election on 28 November.

Mason said Library Associates typically attracted up to 100 people to each of its events – which promote conversations in the community.

She is convinced many more women would be worthy of recognition in an area she says has a high number of achievers.



**Inspirational women...**  
**Margot McRae (above),**  
**Barbara Cuthbert (top, right)**  
**and Julia Durkin (right)**

“Devonport is crawling with women who, if they haven’t been noticed by officialdom, should have been.” This included “unsung heroines” who fostered children, ran food banks and cared for ecology, she said.

• *Inspirational Women in our Community*, Devonport Library, Tuesday 24 November, with nibbles from 7pm and a Q&A session from 7.30pm.

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## Writers signal they're keen for a stay

Residencies at the Michael King Writers' Centre in Devonport have been in hot demand, with applicant numbers reaching 433 for 20 places in 2021.

A growing number of emerging writers were seeking a stay in the Signalman's House on Takarunga.

The centre has now announced the writers who were successful in securing a residency, with the centre's chair, Melanie Laville-Moore, saying the standard was "hugely impressive."

The writers' stays are supported by Creative New Zealand. Work will range from poetry on the theme of endurance, a sustainability fable and a domestic dramedy, to an overview of the use of prison labour in New Zealand, from the Church Missionary Society's use of convicts

in 1814 to the state prison farms of the 1920s.

"There are significant and high-quality projects to be worked upon from a wide range of writers at various career stages, and we very much look forward to welcoming them to the centre across the year ahead," said Laville-Moore.

Established writers who have secured a spot are: Kerrin P. Sharpe, Jane Bloomfield, Gina Cole, Steph Matuku, Jared Davidson, Kate Duignan, Kyle Mewburn, Octavia Cade, Tracy Farr, Pip Desmond, Helen Vivienne Fletcher, Anna Jackson, Ingrid Horrocks and Miro Bilbrough.

The emerging writers are: Emma Hislop, Lana Lopesi, Nathan Joe, Kiran Dass, Zarah Butcher-McGunnigle and Jordan Hamel.

## The pen is mightier than the sword

Afghan refugee and artist Sayed Ali Karam Jawhary is about to hold his second solo show at the Depot Artspace. It celebrates Persian calligraphy and follows his first show two years ago, introducing the unique art form to New Zealand. That was also held at the Depot.

Jawhary, who came to New Zealand in 2013, says art is a universal language that transcends culture. "This calligraphy is the way I tell people how I feel." For him, it is also a conscious effort to choose beauty over suffering, while finding solace in traditional Persian writings.

Persian calligraphy is an art form established around the seventh century and ancient Persian

script originated around 500-600BC.

At age 15, Jawhary was forced to flee his war-torn homeland of Afghanistan and take refuge in neighbouring Iran, where he became a professional signwriter and calligrapher. He also learned about the best calligraphers and developed his artistic practice, becoming involved with artists and exhibiting in the city of Qum. He has practised the art for nearly four decades, using hand-carved bamboo pens.

*The Reed Pen's Tale Continues: To Be One in Heart* is on at the Depot Artspace, 28 Clarence St, Devonport, from 19 November, until 16 December.

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Let Him Go (M)	26 NOV
Onward (G)	26 NOV
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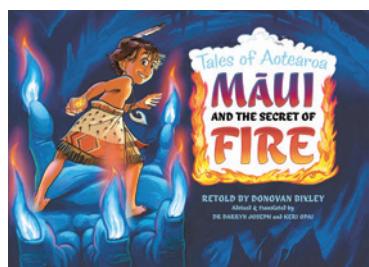
### Tēnā Koutou Tatou,

Summer is coming and hopefully it's a time when we can all relax and enjoy the company of whānau and friends.

November seems to be a busy month for everybody; a good time also to start collecting your new reading for those lazy summer days.

Our children's programmes on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at 10am are running regularly, plus we have some extra family activities (all are Level 1 events):

**Nov 21st at 10.30am:** (Sat) Rhymetime with Dad! For all those dads who never get to boogie with their kids at the library during the week.



**Nov 22nd at 11am:** (Sun) Donovan Bixley is coming to talk about his book *Māui and the secret of Fire* and show you some of the Secrets of his illustrating techniques.

**Nov 29th at 11am:** (Sun) Bird feeders – family activity. Create a bird feeder to attract more birds into the garden.

Last, but not least, the Devonport Community Christmas Parade on Sunday Dec 6th – we'll see you there!

**Have a great month!**  
**Aroha from Devonport Library.**

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