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DEVONPORT  
OFFICE 2020/2021



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DELIVERED FORTNIGHTLY

April 22, 2022

AN INDEPENDENT VOICE

Scruffy buildings  
'let down' village... p2

Veteran cat Bobba  
celebrates 21st... p5

Interview: Kite-foiler  
Lukas Walton-Keim... p20

## Massive housing changes ahead for peninsula

Huge changes to the housing intensity on the Devonport peninsula were included in citywide consultation documents released by Auckland Council on Tuesday.

Key changes included:

- A new medium-density residential zone that would include Belmont, Bayswater and

Hauraki, plus Narrow Neck north of the golf course. It allows up to three, three-storey town houses per site.

- Residential land within 200 metres of Devonport town centre would be included in a Terrace Housing and Apartment Buildings Zone, which would allow buildings of up

to five storeys. However, land on Wynyard and Anne Sts could be subject to additional controls such as coastal inundation.

In a significant shift most of Devonport south of the golf course would remain two-storey single residential sites.

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## Top of the poppies: Navy singer passes the Anzac baton



**In tune... Navy singer Rebecca Nelson (left) put forward her vocal student Milla Rodrigues-Birch (13) to sing at this year's Anzac Day commemoration in Devonport. Story, page 8.**

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

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**Briefs**

**Cyclist-fatality case back in court in June**

The driver accused of causing the death of a cyclist on Lake Rd will next appear in North Shore District Court in June. Simeji Mose has been charged with dangerous driving causing death after a crash in March 2021 that killed triathlete Warrick Jones. Mose previously intimated a not-guilty plea. He is set to reappear for a case review on 28 June.

**Racquets club reverses vaccine requirement**

Belmont Park Racquets Club – one of the first sports clubs in the country to introduce a ‘no-vax, no-play’ policy – has reopened its facilities for all. From 6 April, the club opened up its tennis courts to all members and visitors, though vaccine passes were still required for users of its clubhouse and squash courts. From 15 April, a pass was no longer needed anywhere on the premises. The club is still strongly encouraging the use of masks in the clubhouse, especially in the upstairs squash lounge.

**Stanley Bay assault investigation continues**

Police still have nothing to report on the assault of a woman in Stanley Bay Park on the evening of 8 February. A police spokesman told the Flagstaff last week that enquiries were ongoing. “We have no further updates at this stage of the investigation.”

**Village ‘let down’ by scruffy buildings**

The sorry-looking state of central Devonport is letting down the village, says local business improvement district (BID) manager Katherine Downs.

Empty, dirty and scruffy buildings on the lower part of Victoria Rd could do with sprucing up, she told the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board in a recent annual briefing about town-centre performance.

The lower reaches of Victoria Rd were particularly uninviting for people arriving by ferry, she said.

Empty shops were a big challenge, but she was exploring whether some of the vacant spaces could be used for pop-up events.

Among the empty spaces is a large former homewares store and, nearby, unoccupied 3 Victoria Rd, the former borough council chambers Auckland Council wants to sell off as a surplus asset.

Downs said the plunge in overseas visitors due to Covid had hit Devonport particularly hard. Tourist and gift stores had closed and other retailers and hospitality venues were feeling the downturn.

“The community is feeling extremely sad about the business we have lost,” she said.

Devonport’s total spend for the reporting period had actually grown by 4 per cent, said Downs, but this was heavily skewed by the lockdown effect of having a large supermarket trading well. It did not reflect the true impact on individual operators. Spending rose 16 per cent for groceries and alcohol, but fell in other areas.

Aidan Bennett, who is the local board’s representative on the Devonport Business Association, said: “Business is at an all-time low and Devonport relies on foot traffic – the only way is up.”

Local-board member Toni van Tonder favoured obtaining data on whether the 50 per cent price cut for public transport was bringing more people over on ferries.

Downs, who became BID manager in November last year, was praised for the energy she had already brought to the role and efforts made in trying to inject life back into the village.

This included organising small-scale children’s activities in lieu of larger events and recruiting local musicians to play outdoors on Saturday evenings in February and March.

“It’s all about livening up the village and making it a place where people feel good about going out,” she said. The mood seemed to be lifting.

Looking ahead, Downs said money had been carried over from cancelled and postponed events. Shop Local promotions had cost \$3060, but Downs said she believed this campaign had largely run its course and other initiatives were now needed to attract people.

The plan was to run the popular Friday After Five street festival in December. After multiple postponements last year, it was cancelled. But in 2020, its second year, Downs said it had attracted extra spending of \$322,000, equal to a total day’s trade for the area, so was well worth repeating. Another event would also be planned for February 2023. The Glow light event would also return.

BID activities are supported by an annual \$30,000 from the local board: \$25,000 for events and \$5000 for Market View business data. It also receives a targeted rate of \$120,000.

Downs said that BID membership had grown from around 160 to 180 members.

A strategic plan from 2017 was being updated to reflect the “completely different landscape”. More digital marketing was planned, and wayfinding signage was still on the agenda.

Board member Trish Deans put in a plug for heritage to feature in Devonport’s branding.

Deans also asked if a discount day the supermarket ran to attract seniors could be extended to other businesses, but Downs said conditions were “too tight” to allow this.

**The Devonport Flagstaff**  
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**ROWLEY FUNERALS**

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Authorised by Simon Watts, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.

## Backyard to the world: teen follows her hoop dreams



**Shooting for the big time... Belmont basketballer Amy-Lee Pateman is heading overseas in New Zealand colours this year, and hopes one day to win a US college scholarship**



**On offence... Amy-Lee will play for New Zealand at an under-16 Asia Cup tournament in June**

The possibility of a college scholarship in the United States is a driving force for rising young basketballer Amy-Lee Pateman, who soon heads overseas to play for New Zealand.

The 15-year-old Westlake Girls High School student has been selected for the Kiwi team to play the Under-16 Asia Cup in Jordan in June. If the Kiwis finish in the top four, they qualify for the under-17 FIBA World Cup in Hungary the following month.

Amy-Lee has played basketball for seven years. "I play netball (too). It wasn't a lot of contact and I'm really rough," she said with a laugh.

She relishes the thrill and excitement of basketball. "I love the support and the cheering and the energy around it, and the competitiveness."

Amy-Lee mainly plays point guard and sometimes shooting guard. Guards need good understanding of the game and of interacting with other players, she said.

"I think [basketball] could be a career path for me. My main goal is to get a scholarship to the United States." The Tall Ferns would be an ultimate achievement.

Amy-Lee, who lives in Belmont, is a North Harbour age-group representative and has been in the New Zealand under-16 development squad.

As a 13-year-old, Amy-Lee played in an age-grade tournament in Melbourne, but the trip to Jordan is a big step up.

She has to raise \$6000 and would need the same again if the team qualifies for the World Cup. While Basketball New Zealand offers some support, she feels cost is a barrier to more young people playing basketball.

She is offering basketball and netball coaching sessions for primary-school kids to raise money.

Amy-Lee says basketball is on the rise as a girls' sport.

Basketball New Zealand's Tauhi Basketball Aotearoa league will start at the end of June, with six regional women's teams.

Amy-Lee, who has also played touch, tag and volleyball, won a Junior Excellence award in the 2019 AIMES programme, which acknowledges achievement in arts, innovation, music, education, sport and community service for young people aged 13-25.



**NEW LISTING**



**Devonport 75 Vauxhall Road**

**Sun-soaked villa close to Cheltenham Beach**

4 3 3 2

Positively flooded with light and sun, this spacious, stylish double storey villa with stand-out street appeal, enjoys a fantastic position just a three-minute stroll from beautiful Cheltenham beach, and is located at the very heart of the vibrant Vauxhall village, so the buzz of the cafes and shops is right on your doorstep. Coffee and croissants couldn't be closer. The character filled 1900's residence has a relaxed, beachy feel that's balanced with captivating heritage charm. With four bedrooms and three living areas with options to use those spaces as you wish, it can accommodate your needs whether to work from home or have extra accommodation for guests to stay. Comes with plenty of off-street parking and a single car garage, perfect for all your beach toys.

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# Bobba the moggy feline fine at 21

Devonport siblings Laura and Oscar Rooney have never known life without Bobba the cat.

At 21, Bobba is believed to be the oldest cat in the village.

The grey-and-white domestic shorthair first arrived at the Rooney family's former home in Stanley Bay around 2000/2001.

Laura, now 17, and Oscar, 15, have grown up with her as part of the family.

Laura gave the cat her third and final name, after she had previously been called both Mosey and Glayton.

"When Laura was a baby, she took to calling her 'Bobba' and it stuck," recalled Laura and Oscar's father, Brian Rooney.

In 2003, Bobba shifted with her owners to their current home near Dudes Beach.

Bobba was put in a cattery to ease the move, but she was not amused by the experience.

After being shut inside her new home to acclimatise, she escaped from a high bathroom window and disappeared.

"We'd pretty much given up hope after a week, and then at four o'clock in the morning, up on the roof here, we heard a meow," Brian said.

She's been a big part of family life, following the younger members some of the way to school in the mornings.

As a younger cat, she once caught a kingfisher – which thankfully was saved – and has been in a scrap or two in her time.

"She fights back, I'll give her that," Brian said.

One of her adversaries was a well-known Devonport feline identity.

"She used to have epic fights in the house with Benjamin the library cat," Brian said.

"Benjamin used to come round here and use the cat door and fight with Bobba in the middle of the night."

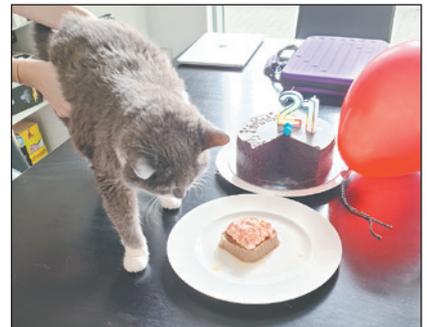


**Lifelong pal... Bobba the cat with Oscar and Laura Rooney, and celebrating her 21st (below)**

Conflict also resulted after the family found two abandoned kittens who came briefly to stay. "Bobba was not friends with them," Oscar said.

Bobba has slowed down a lot now. She has arthritis and hyperthyroidism, which she has medication for.

But she still likes to mingle with the family, with stools supplied to help her get onto her favoured sleeping spots.



## Interest Rate Rises

A brief note from us this week as holidays approached.

The Reserve Bank raised the Official Cash Rate (OCR) by 0.50% last week to 1.50% – that's now 1.25% higher than the low last year of 0.25%. But the banks have increased their fixed and floating rates by much more than that (in some cases by over 2%) as they look to price in further rate hikes towards an OCR of 3%.

The banks are actually doing the credit-tightening themselves by pre-empting further hikes, which may not be as rapid as markets are picking due to the slowdown in business confidence and house prices.

We have been working with a number of clients to minimise the cash drains of the new rate increases, with positive results. So don't panic about this situation – speak to us as there are ideas and options available in many cases.

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## Local historian explores Anzac Day revival

A trip to Gallipoli for the 2015 centennial commemorations of the Anzac campaign turned out to be an important influence on Devonport-raised academic Rowan Light.

Light has just published a book exploring the later aftermath of that chapter of World War I, looking at how it has in recent decades shaped two nations' views of their identities being forged in battle.

*Anzac Nations: The legacy of Gallipoli in New Zealand and Australia 1965-2015* (Otago University Press) takes up the story 50 years after a generation brutally came of age fighting for Empire.

In the 1960s, with old Diggers dying off and attendance at Anzac Day parades dwindling in both countries, no-one expected that after another 50 years, a kind of "peak Anzac" would be reached. That came in 2015, when the prime ministers of both countries and ballot winners flocked to Turkey to mark events of 100 years earlier.

Light was among the many young people who converged at Anzac Cove. He recalls the patriotic swell of the shared gathering, and the mood as the Kiwis went on to Chunuk Bair where 2500 New Zealand casualties were recorded as the summit was taken and soon lost again. On the other side of the world, tens of thousands also gathered at war memorials around Australia and New Zealand.

These memorials are a clue to some of the differences in how we see the Anzac story.

"There's a tendency in Australia to celebrate the volunteer tradition," says Light,



**Remembrance... Rowan Light says war memorials tend to have a different focus on either side of the Tasman**

these days a University of Auckland history lecturer. "In New Zealand, there's something that is much more sombre, remembering those who died."

Our Anzac identities diverge in other ways, too. "Anzac in Australia is a self-defining Australian-ness. In New Zealand it's much more

relational and that also includes the Maori and pakeha relationship," Light says.

From the 1980s onward, aided by the release of Peter Weir's myth-making movie *Gallipoli*, Australia and its politicians have institutionalised their story.

This has influenced New Zealanders, but our different indigenous and settler histories have made for a more nuanced story.

"For many New Zealanders, Anzac has really changed. We fixated on Anzac as a story and a place in a way we didn't a few generations ago."

Anzac Day transitioned with time from being an affirmation of service and soldier-citizenship to satisfying a hunger for values-defining national stories: witness Te Papa's blockbuster *Gallipoli* exhibition and what has become an OE rite of passage, visiting the battlefields.

Light, whose parents Alan and Elizabeth still live in Devonport, attended St Leo's Catholic School and Rosmini College before university, where he focused his research on conflict and war.

As well as teaching courses in 19th and 20th century history, he is a project curator on the New Zealand Wars at the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

Light's book springs from his PhD thesis and he hopes it will add

its own chapter to the developing Anzac story.

This will remain culturally embedded, he says, but by its 125th anniversary in 2040 – which will also be the bicentennial year of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi – he expects the interpretation will advance.

"It's a public script for where we are."

## Anzac ceremonies stay low-key despite Covid rules easing

The RSA accepts Auckland Council had too little time to plan bigger Anzac Day commemorations in Devonport and Takapuna than will be held on Monday, 25 April.

Although disappointed, the veterans organisation said time was against moves to stage bigger gatherings and parades once Covid regulations were eased by the government this month.

"If it had been three weeks earlier..." said Devonport RSA president Muzz Kennett. "It was all around the permits for traffic management and the medical staff on standby. It was just too late," he said.

Crowd control and minimising risk of Omicron transmission were other issues.

Devonport will carry on with arrangements the RSA and local board members agreed with council staff last month, with a small

invitation-only wreath-laying ceremony at a morning time that is not being publicised.

The public is welcome to visit war memorials during the day to lay other wreaths.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board chair Ruth Jackson said she too had hoped the scaled-back arrangements might be revisited, but these stood across the city.

A live stream has been arranged that will allow residents to join in virtually, with a gathering limited to 150 invited guests to be held at the Devonport RSA from 10am.

Chris Mullane, programme organiser for the RSA, said: "It will be as close as possible under the circumstances to what normally happens at the memorial of the untidy soldier in Devonport."

Viewers could connect from 9.30am to see footage shot earlier at the town-centre

wreath-laying and then view the events inside the RSA from 10am.

A recorded performance by Navy singer Rebecca Nelson will be shown at the function, and one of her vocal students, Milla Rodrigues-Birch, a TGS student, will sing at the RSA.

Narrow Neck bugler, Sergeant Bill Rimmer, will sound the *Last Post* and *Reveille* and the Lament will be played by piper Anton Hodson.

The RSA's guest speaker is Navy Captain Richard Walker who will also lay a wreath on behalf of the Defence Force, after laying wreaths earlier at both the Takapuna and Devonport memorials. A wreath will be laid on behalf of the Navy by Commander Emma Grant.

• To view events go to [ourauckland.nz/anzacday](http://ourauckland.nz/anzacday).

# Devonport author wants young to mark Anzac Day



**Still relevant... Devonport author Glenda Kane hopes the reissue of her children's picture book fosters interest in Anzac Day services and conversations with elders**

A Devonport author whose children's book, which is set on Anzac Day and just been re-published, wants to encourage young people to keep attending commemoration services.

Glenda Kane's *Anzac Day Parade* was first released in 2010, but the passing of time – and the war in Ukraine – has added an extra dimension to her recent reflections on its subject matter.

Kane's three sons, Jarrah, Beau and Jesse, who went through Bayswater primary school, Belmont Intermediate and Takapuna Grammar School, were only young when the book first came out. They are now 22, 20, and 18.

"Under different circumstances they could be conscripted to go to war."

Publisher David Bateman had been set to re-publish another picture book by Kane and illustrator Lisa Allen, the environmentally themed *Mangrove*. Allen suggested relaunching *Anzac Day Parade* as well, and the publisher agreed.

The book is based on a scene Kane saw at an Auckland War Memorial service – an elderly veteran gazing over the landscape and a young boy, who didn't seem to know him, gazing up in admiration.

"I just went away and made up what they were talking about," she said. "The old man I see as really carrying the trauma of war."

Kane was an adult before she attended an Anzac Day service, first going after meeting her future husband in Australia.

"I was so moved that I really started to understand why Anzac Day is commemorated.

"I grew up in New Zealand and I knew about Anzac Day but I didn't care – it wasn't in my heart. When I was growing up, numbers at Anzac Day services were as low as they ever were."

Kane wants the book to start conversations and to encourage young people to dig deeper into what is happening in the world.

But, "my first, most passionate plea is to talk to the older people in your life".

A Battle for Crete veteran, Noel Dromgool, was illustrator Allen's model for the artwork in the book.

She and Kane spent an afternoon talking with him and his wife, Peggy.

When Kane tried to contact them several months later, once the book was published, to give them a copy, their son told her that both his parents had died.

That showed "why we need to talk to people while we can", she said.

"I was able to get a copy to their son, and he said he thought his dad would have thought it was pretty bloody good."

Kane has no military connections herself, but says the war did not just affect soldiers, but all those left behind as well.

She wants to encourage young people to keep attending the services "because they are not about glorifying war. They're quite the

opposite. They're about acknowledging the cost of war.

"You don't have to have a military connection for Anzac Day to be meaningful."

*Anzac Day Parade* is available at Paradox Books in Devonport and most other bookstores.

## Poppy Day goes ahead

The Poppy Day street appeal will go ahead this year, after volunteer collectors responded to an RSA call for help.

Street-corner collectors will be out on Friday, with further collections at local supermarkets over the weekend leading into Anzac Day on Monday. Poppy collection boxes have also been distributed to some local shops, and digital donations are being taken.

The RSA hopes for a revived level of donations, after its annual appeals returns suffered in the last two Covid-interrupted years. Its focus this year is on drawing attention to those who have served in more recent conflicts than World Wars I and II.

A multi-day collection was held on Tuesday last week by students of Takapuna Grammar School and Belmont Intermediate.

## TGS student takes on Anzac Day singing duties

### From page 1

Thirteen-year-old Bayswater singer Milla Rodrigues-Birch (pictured) will play a leading part in Anzac Day commemorations at the Devonport RSA.

The talented Takapuna Grammar School Year 9 student will sing the national anthems of both New Zealand and Australia, along with a rendition of *Amazing Grace*.

"I'm less familiar with the Australian national anthem," she admits, but says practice over the last few weeks has prepared her to tackle it.

Milla was recommended for the task by her singing coach, Navy Able Musician Rebecca Nelson, who says Milla has a beautiful voice and great stage presence.

"She handles the pressure really well," Nelson said.

Nelson, who has sung for her country at commemorations overseas, has tutored Milla for two years.

She is also a driving force in the Remembrance Army helping preserve war graves

at O'Neill's Point Cemetery in Bayswater. Milla says: "My voice has grown more in that two years [with Nelson] than since I started."

That was when she was seven, first taking singing lessons at school.

Since then, Milla has been in choirs and shows, including performances with the National Youth Theatre.

As well as readying for Anzac Day, Milla is rehearsing for her school's production of *Mamma Mia!* next month. She loves musical theatre and would like to take it further.

"I like all sorts of singing, usually musical theatre, but I'm in a rock band [at school] and I like singing pop songs."

She hopes nerves won't be an issue on Anzac Day, given she has performing experience, but admits this is a different sort of event.

"My friends are chill about it and say 'that's nice' and my family are really excited about it."

Proud mother Claudia Rodrigues said "it's such a huge privilege for Milla".



### From page 1

## Planning changes open for consultation



### Upzoning around town centre area, within the brown lines

Areas of Cheltenham had been targeted for removal of Special Character protection. But it is understood this was dropped at a confidential section of Auckland Council's last planning-committee meeting, where the criterion for high-quality heritage features in Devonport was lowered from 75 per cent to 66 per cent, meaning Cheltenham would remain unchanged.

Some small pockets at Stanley Pt and parts of Narrow Neck north of Cheltenham near Wairoa Rd would be opened up for greater intensification.

Sites abutting the coastline on Norwood Rd, Beresford St, Ngataringa Rd and Seaclyffe Ave would remain two-storey residential sites, protecting views.

The changes have been implemented following laws passed by the government last December that require New Zealand's major cities to increase housing density and building heights.

To mitigate the impact and protect sensitive areas and sites, Auckland Council is proposing a series of overlays or "qualifying matters". In Devonport, the most important are volcanic viewshafts and height-sensitive areas, and coastal inundation.

However, council has also proposed local public views (individual viewing points and their locally significant viewshafts) and significant infrastructure constraints (where development can be limited where there is not enough infrastructure to support it) as additional qualifying matters, which could be relevant for the Devonport Peninsula.

All Special Character Areas – more than 21,000 homes, and 1600 Special Character business properties – were surveyed. Across Auckland, around 75 per cent of the properties reviewed were identified as qualifying for Special Character protections.

Devonport town centre was identified by council as a business Special Character Area.

## Information events

Auckland Council is holding a number of webinars on the government's new housing rules and an in-person information event in Devonport.

Webinars: General Overview: 20 April, 5.30pm–7.00pm; Special Character Areas: 21 April, 5.30pm–7.00pm; General Overview: 27 April, 5.30pm–7.00pm; Other Qualifying Matters: 2 May, 5.30pm–7.00pm.

Information Session: Devonport Community House, 32 Clarence St. Special Character Areas: April 26 6.30pm–8.00pm.

This session will provide more details on what Special Character Areas are and how they have been identified across Auckland. Questions can be put to Auckland Council staff.

Councillor questions: 30 April, 9am–12 noon, North Shore Councillors Richard Hills and Chris Darby will be at the Devonport Library to answer questions.

## What happens next

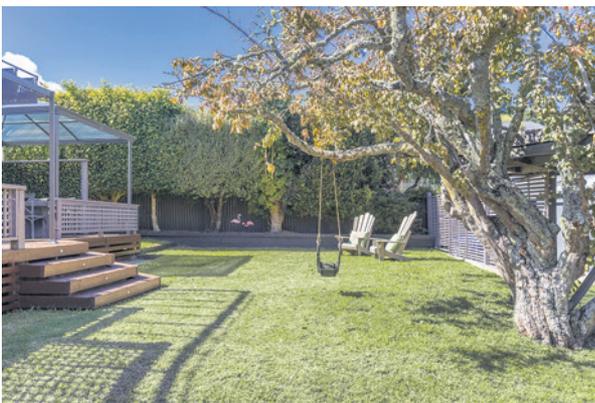
From 19 April to 9 May, Auckland Council is asking for residents' views on zoning changes.

The council will consider the feedback received and prepare a proposed plan change to the Auckland Unitary Plan, which will be publicly notified by 20 August 2022.

• To give feedback and see maps of the changes visit [akhaveyoursay.nz/housing](http://akhaveyoursay.nz/housing)



**NEW LISTING**



**Devonport** 5 Ewen Alison Avenue

### Classic family villa | Scope to expand

This fabulous four-bedroom family villa celebrates all the classic design hallmarks of its era and is located just a short walk from the village. The 696sqm site it sits on is also a huge bonus – it's a blank canvas for significantly expanding the home's footprint and there's even room for a pool. This villa remains architecturally pure, with its heritage features still very much intact, but it has been enhanced with modern must-haves, including multi-zone central heating and cooling so you can choose your temperature all year round in each and every room. The open plan living/kitchen/dining area at the rear is the hub of the home and flows out to a series of outdoor living areas and the opportunity filled land beyond.

[bayleys.co.nz/1470527](http://bayleys.co.nz/1470527)

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**Auction** 1.30pm, Thu 12 May 2022

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**View** Sat/Sun 11-11.45am

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## ADVERTISEMENT

# THE MOVE TO WILLIAM SANDERS - A NEW HOME AND A NEW COMMUNITY

Karrin and Graham loved their two-storey house in Bayswater. However, entering retirement meant the North Shore couple wanted to plan for the future.

“We know as you get older things change. We didn’t want the burden of maintaining a house and the gardens,” said Graham.

“We also knew with two of our three children living overseas, when the time comes there is a lot of pressure and responsibility on your children to make decisions. We wanted to take that pressure off our children,” said Karrin.

Growing up on the same road as the village, Karrin says she didn’t want to leave the area. So, in November 2020 they took the plunge and contacted William Sanders to view some of the planned independent living apartments.



**The lifestyle at William Sanders is exactly what Graham and Karrin had been looking for**

“Staying in the area was an important part of our future. When we came to look at the apartments, we had no intention of buying yet, but ended up buying within 24 hours. We wanted to make sure we wouldn’t miss out!

“The apartment was exactly what we were looking for - modern, spacious and with amazing views. It’s the same outlook I saw as a child growing up in Ngataringa Bay,” said Karrin.

As well as having space for their family when

they came from overseas, the apartment had room for their littlest family member, Maggie the Cavoodle.

The Byrnes have quickly settled into the Ryman community, making use of all the great amenities.

“I’ve been swimming most days, said Graham. The library is great, and the communal areas too.”

Not only are Karrin and Graham loving village life, but Maggie has made more than enough friends to last a lifetime.

“Maggie has qualified as a St John therapy dog, and we take her three days a week into the hospital, resthome and dementia unit here at William Sanders.”

“The first couple of times after her visits, we were quite tearful - in a good way,” says Graham.

“It really gets you in the heart when people’s eyes light up seeing Maggie.”

Maggie also loves the attention given to her by the residents.

“You feel so completely humbled by it, people really love seeing her and for us to take the time to visit and chat as Covid has meant a lot of visitors, especially from overseas, haven’t been able to come.

“It’s amazing how a little creature like that can give people so much joy.”

For Karrin, Graham and Maggie, the Ryman experience has given them a new home, a new purpose and a new community all whilst staying part of the Devonport community they have spent a lifetime in.



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**Belmont** 30A Montgomery Avenue

3 1 1 2

This lovely home sits on a quiet corner section. Capturing all-day sun which filters through to the dining and kitchen area via the welcoming French doors.



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**Belmont** 27A Alamein Avenue

4 2 2 2

An attractive contemporary style freehold home with a private outlook, easy care gardens and great outdoor entertaining areas. Great location.



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**Devonport** 49 Stanley Point Road

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Low maintenance, single level living, immaculate condition, huge internal access garaging and wonderful outdoor living spaces.



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**Devonport** 47A Regent Street

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**Jane Hastings**  
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**Devonport 16 Albert Road**

5 4 3 2

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**Marissa Muirhead**  
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**Devonport 19 Roslyn Terrace**

3 1 2 1

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M 021 911 522



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**View** Sat/Sun 11.00-11.30am  
harcourts.co.nz/DP23857

**Harcourts**



**Devonport 6/40 Lake Road**

2 1 1 2

This two bed home has a separate studio room ideally suited to a 'work from home' office. The elevated lounge has a wonderful view of the Sky Tower.



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**View** Sat/Sun 12.00 - 12.30pm  
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**Harcourts**



**Belmont 59A Northboro Road**

4 2 2 3

This special property is a perfect escape from busy lives and all the pressures of the outside world, making you feel calm and very happy to be home!



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harcourts.co.nz/DP23788

**Harcourts**



**Belmont 4/203 Lake Road**

2 1 1 1

An open plan lounge, dining and kitchen area has large bi-fold doors that leads straight out to the deck and garden, facing north ensures sun.



**Marissa Muirhead**  
M 021 337 222



**Maria Stevens**  
M 021 979 084

Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd Licensed Agent REAA 2008

**For Sale** \$1,295,000  
**View** As advertised or by appointment  
harcourts.co.nz/DP23739

**Harcourts**



**Devonport 24 Shoal Bay Road**

3 2 2 2

This home represents an amazing opportunity to add value. Positioned next to Melrose Reserve, this home enjoys a north facing sunny outlook.



**Diana Murray**  
M 021 911 522

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**Maria Stevens**  
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 maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz



**Marissa Muirhead**  
**M** 021 337 222  
 marissa.muirhead@harcourts.co.nz

# US passport helps rugby player win college scholarship



**Rugby first choice...Hayden McKay**

It was hard for Hayden McKay to choose between rugby and cricket – he’s been playing both since he was four years old.

But rugby has its nose in front after North Shore under-21 flanker McKay was offered a scholarship to play at Mount St Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, not far from Washington DC, in the United States.

“It started off as a bit of an idea that could happen but was probably never going to,” he said.

McKay (18) has a US passport, because his Kiwi dad and Australian mum were in Los Angeles for work when he was born, though the family moved back to New Zealand when he was a toddler. Having that passport meant he could pursue a domestic-student scholarship in the US.

McKay attended Takapuna Grammar School (TGS) until last year. The school’s director of sport, Joshua Choice, sent videos and McKay’s CV to universities across the US, resulting in a lot of Zoom calls from interested coaches.

McKay chose Mount St Mary’s because of its rugby reputation, as well as its family-oriented culture.

“They were really inviting,” he says.

“They’ll fly my mum and dad over once a year and put them up in a hotel and stuff.”

McKay, who played premier cricket for North Shore last summer, says he is probably better at cricket than rugby, and will look at playing some cricket in the US as well. “I’m not quite ready to give up cricket yet.”

But rugby brought the the scholarship opportunity and the chance to get a good education.

McKay also enjoys the game’s focus on teamwork. “You’re playing for each other and I love that aspect about it, and the competitiveness. I love to win.”

McKay started a landscaping business in year 12 of high school and it has grown into a full-time role with an employee. “I love to work for myself,” he said.

He’s trying to sell the business before he leaves.

At Mount St Mary’s, he plans to study for a Bachelor of Commerce, with a focus on property management.

At his age, the move is a big one, but a great opportunity.

“I won’t be able to come home and have dinner made for me by my mum and stuff like that,” he said. But New Zealand will still loom large.

“Home will always be here.”

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## Top historic listing proposed for O'Neill's Point Cemetery

O'Neill's Point Cemetery at Bayswater has been put forward to be a Category 1 historic place in the New Zealand Heritage List.

The cemetery is a rare-surviving place associated with the early 20th-century history of Pasifika peoples in New Zealand, and particularly the involvement and sacrifice of Pacific Island soldiers during the First World War (1914-18), a report by Heritage New Zealand says.

O'Neill's Point is also associated with other significant World War I history, and the 1918 influenza pandemic; Devonport's role as a place of collective training and shared experience for both Māori and Pacific Island – as well as Pākehā – troops; and diverse attitudes to military service within Māori communities.

Opened in 1891, the graveyard was created as a large, second-generation colonial cemetery outside Devonport to cater for citizens from the local and wider Auckland area.

After the nearby establishment of Narrow Neck camp for training Pacific Island, Māori and other recruits in 1915, the cemetery was the final place of rest for many servicemen including those from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Tuvalu and Niue, as well as Māori and Pākehā communities.

A number died during the 1918 influenza pandemic.

The Devonport area has been settled since soon after Māori arrived in Aotearoa, with evidence of activity along the shoreline on the O'Neill's Point peninsula as well as nearby pā and other sites.

After the establishment of colonial Auckland in 1840, Devonport developed as a boatbuilding, military and residential centre, expanding significantly from the 1880s. Public-health concerns about the first colonial burial ground at Takarunga led to a new civic facility created outside the borough in 1890-91.

Designed by engineer John Boylan, the new cemetery incorporated a main access avenue lined with native trees or shrubs, and a rectilinear grid of burial plots to the east divided into Catholic, Anglican and unsectarian sections.

Following increased demand, land to the west was laid out with smaller plots in 1903, the report said.

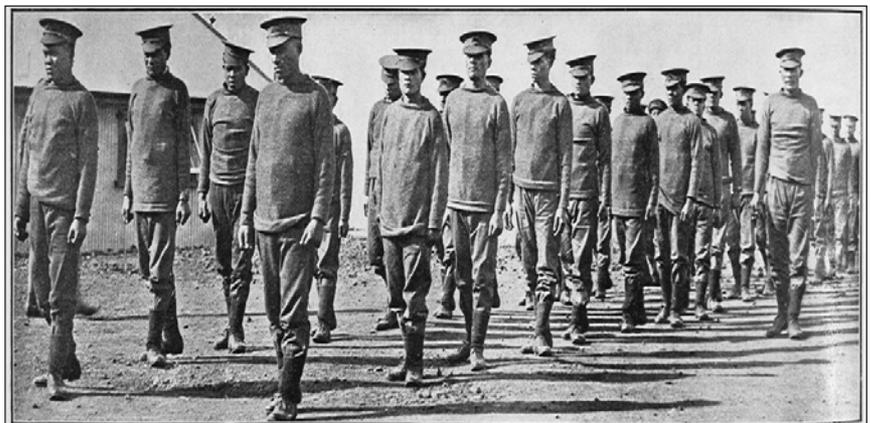
Narrow Neck camp formed the main training centre for Pasifika and Māori troops in New Zealand during World War I.

More than 10 per cent of all Pacific Island soldiers who died of disease or wounds while serving in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF) are buried at O'Neill's Point.

The cemetery contains Niue's first casualty in the conflict; and the largest number of Cook Island soldiers to be laid to rest while serving in the NZEF.

Servicemen from Fiji and Tuvalu were also buried there.

Subsequent burials reflecting New Zea-



land's close connections with the Pacific – and its role as a regional colonial power – include that of Walter Gudgeon (1841-1920), controversial first Governor of the Cook Islands.

Between 5500 and 6000 bodies are interred in the cemetery.

“As the site of private remembrance, and public Anzac Day commemorations since 1921, the cemetery remains an important place of memory and identity.

“It fulfils this purpose for diverse cultural communities, both within and beyond Aotearoa New Zealand,” the report said.

**Pacific ties... (from top) O'Neill's Point Cemetery is the final resting place of Pasifika and other soldiers; Niue Island recruits at Narrow Neck camp (Auckland Weekly News, October 1915); and Māori and Niue Island soldiers at Narrow Neck camp (Auckland Weekly News, February 1916).**



**By Rob Drent**

I've got mixed feelings about the well-supported food trucks evening held at Woodall Park recently.

While it's good to see people making the most of a seemingly endless summer and out enjoying themselves, it's not so flash if you are a local business.

Food trucks survive on a low-cost model: no rent and often owner-operated, with cheaper staff costs.

They are the bane of established businesses – restaurants and cafes – who pay rent and often employ local people. In Devonport's case, many waiting staff are students from the area.

They also often pay hefty commercial rates, which helps keep Auckland Council ticking over.

By making a council reserve available for the event, Auckland Council is effectively subsidising the food trucks, which are in competition with local hospitality venues.

A mitigating factor for the council is that the food-truck events are irregular. But with

hospitality venues in Devonport only partially recovered following Covid lockdowns and restrictions on numbers, this was poor timing.

A change in the Covid response setting to orange – lessening the restrictions on bars and restaurants – can't come soon enough for Devonport hospitality businesses. But they are still a long way off from normal services being resumed, especially where tourists are concerned.

Remember the days when cruise ship passengers filled Devonport's streets? Who knows when these will return. Some international destinations, such as Bali, have apparently used the Covid downtime to spruce up hotels and tourist spots, ready for the return of visitors.

Devonport's commercial area – with the exception of the library and Marine Square – could also do with a bit of a freshen-up before the summer of 2022–23.

I tend to agree with Bill Rayner's comments in a recent letter to the editor about the pointlessness of current council consultations.

He was particularly critical of the 'Have Your Say' process, which was introduced a few years ago, with online submissions predominant.

Previously, groups and individuals prepared a free-form written submission, then had the chance to speak to the council or local board in support of this.

Additionally, the council's Have Your Say consultations are poorly publicised, generally only announced online.

This appears to be the case with the consultation over Special Character Areas that was launched on 19 April.

The Flagstaff contacted council to see if it was planning to advertise the consultation in this paper, which has covered heritage issues in the suburb for the past 25 years.

We received a firm 'No'.

Is this really good enough from a body that claims it wants to engage with the general public?

With a cash-strapped Auckland Transport (AT) looking at cutting low-use services to help balance its books, it's a worry to see the Stanley Bay and Cheltenham buses quite often leaving the Devonport ferry terminal empty.

One of the unspoken laws of public transport seems to be that once a route is cut it is high on impossible to get it back.

Let's hope no rushed decisions are made until the city workers return to the CBD and public transport starts to be used more fully.

I criticised the cost of the AT Local ride-share service but can't help thinking it was a missed opportunity. The subsidised service was canned after a trial, but might have been a success if drivers had been given a route around Devonport to follow continuously for an uninterrupted public transport option, rather than sitting idle – often for hours on end – waiting for bookings.

## Burglars target village businesses

Several Devonport businesses reported attempted break-ins over two nights earlier this month.

The premises of Vic Rd Wine Bar, Signal Hill, Yamtons and Devonport Chocolates were all targeted on 5 or 6 April.

A security camera was stolen from outside the wine bar and some luxury chocolate eggs taken from Devonport Chocolates.

"Our alarm sounded at about 12.30, quarter to one," Devonport Chocolates' Sam Baxter said. The police attended and searched for fingerprints.

Vic Rd Wine Bar's Alex Roux said it appeared someone had tried to pry the back door open with a crowbar but did not succeed. "The feeling at the moment is this area is the target."

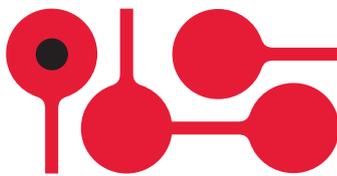
Bruce Yamton said someone attempted to force open the back door of his menswear shop. "They broke some beading on the door – a successful outcome I suppose," he said.

"The back is pretty well protected in terms of security." He said he hadn't had anything similar happen for probably 15 years.

Signal Hill restaurant declined to comment. Police are investigating the incidents.



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# Could rates be hiked for 'NIMBY' homeowners?

I received a circular today asking me "Do You Want This?" – "This" being a crudely faked scene of a four-storey building alongside an old villa in central Devonport.

The circular insisted that Devonport's heritage homes should be used to protect the village from the ravages of Auckland Council intensification plans – even though "This" scene is unlikely to be found in any of the nominated intensification zones along Cheltenham Beach and Narrow Neck. I also noted the 25 March *Flagstaff* has come out in support of protecting wealthy, modern homes along Cheltenham beach whose owners are fighting back against efforts to obstruct their pristine sea views, obtained by limiting access to public resources such as beaches, open spaces and free parking. Ironically, the *Flagstaff* noted that Cheltenham beach in particular should be protected because it did not have a road running alongside it,

that would otherwise facilitate public access.

The *Flagstaff* editor did not however suggest alternative zones in Devonport that could be proposed to Auckland Council to enable Devonport to meet its obligations to absorb a share of the city's population growth. It identified one owner of a nearby heritage house who suggested that there was so much "serious money" invested in these homes in Cheltenham that their owners could cause the council expensive legal battles to protect their seclusion. I'm inclined to believe that wealthy owners are more likely to go after even more "serious money" by selling to developers.

Moreover, I suspect this comment reflects a concern by heritage owners, that beachside apartments might bring in more of Auckland's masses to Devonport, resulting in the downgrading of the value of their homes.

I presume the same issues are arising in

other leafy NIMBY Auckland suburbs that are also disinclined to share access to natural resources, shopping villages, free parking and other public amenities, including close proximity to the Auckland CBD.

Perhaps the solution lies in amending the city's forthcoming rating system so that these privileges are charged through a more appropriate definition of the assessed "Natural Environment – Non Business" rate to reflect a more accurate valuation of the advantages of being a NIMBY.

To ensure there are no increases in rates for citizens without access to these privileges, the increase in the Environmental base could be set off by reducing the "General Rate" pro rata. Any loss in overall income to the city would of course be clawed back by a further increases in the Environmental Rate without affecting the city's income.

**John Irving**

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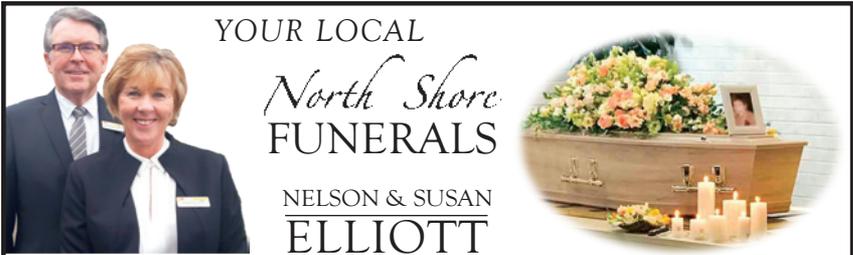
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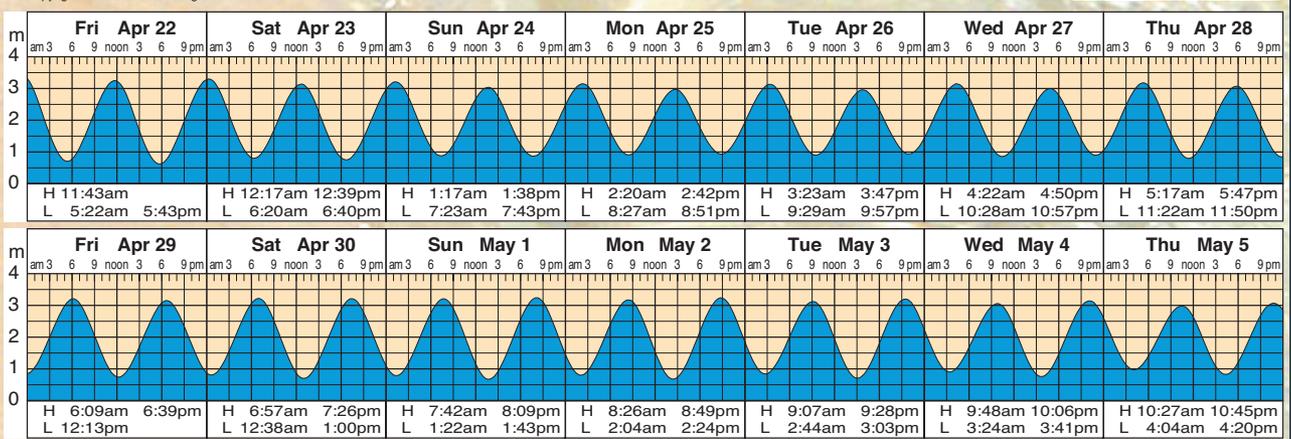


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# Harcourts Devonport Tides

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Day	High	Low
<b>Fri Apr 22</b>	H 11:43am L 5:22am	5:43pm
<b>Sat Apr 23</b>	H 12:17am L 6:20am	12:39pm 6:40pm
<b>Sun Apr 24</b>	H 1:17am L 7:23am	1:38pm 7:43pm
<b>Mon Apr 25</b>	H 2:20am L 8:27am	2:42pm 8:51pm
<b>Tue Apr 26</b>	H 3:23am L 9:29am	3:47pm 9:57pm
<b>Wed Apr 27</b>	H 4:22am L 10:28am	4:50pm 10:57pm
<b>Thu Apr 28</b>	H 5:17am L 11:22am	5:47pm 11:50pm
<b>Fri Apr 29</b>	H 6:09am L 12:13pm	6:39pm
<b>Sat Apr 30</b>	H 6:57am L 1:22am	7:26pm 1:00pm
<b>Sun May 1</b>	H 7:42am L 1:22am	8:09pm 1:43pm
<b>Mon May 2</b>	H 8:26am L 2:04am	8:49pm 2:24pm
<b>Tue May 3</b>	H 9:07am L 2:44am	9:28pm 3:03pm
<b>Wed May 4</b>	H 9:48am L 3:24am	10:06pm 3:41pm
<b>Thu May 5</b>	H 10:27am L 4:04am	10:45pm 4:20pm

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# Loss of heritage protections could wreck a taonga

Devonport Heritage has always had to stand up and take on the contentious issues to guarantee that Devonport's heritage buildings and outstanding historic sites are preserved and retained. It has always been an uphill battle to protect Devonport's heritage and it shouldn't happen this way. This is a brief outline of those struggles.

The Devonport Borough Council had foresight, and they developed a historic schedule and policies to safeguard houses built prior to 1930. The borough was assisted by expert local architects, and although the resulting planning rules were sometimes challenged and some buildings lost, the majority of the villas and bungalows remained.

As a consequence, Devonport remains a remarkable and unique landscape of historic buildings. Devonport has buildings listed with Heritage New Zealand that date from the 1870s and significant Category A and B buildings listed on Auckland Council's Register from the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

Devonport is an area that is renowned and comparable to the historic southern townships of Arrowtown, Akaroa and Oamaru. Yet, in Auckland, we struggle to preserve the very thing we love, a neighbourhood that is chocka with buildings that have historic architectural integrity and historic value.

Devonport Heritage formed in 1994 to get the North Shore City Council to include heritage-protection rules in its District Plan.

Another local issue had hit the headlines, a little later, when the Minister for the Environment, Nick Smith, proposed to sell the land occupied by the Navy at Fort Cautley, Narrow Neck. Courageous locals formed the Tamaki Reserve Protection Trust and commenced a legal challenge. The trust

proved that the land was classified as a reserve, and this argument was upheld by a High Court decision. It was these two events that worried Devonport residents and the concern was that the voice of heritage would not be heard.

Devonport Heritage campaigned to raise awareness and appreciation of the history and heritage values of Devonport, and act as a lobby group for heritage restoration. The group worked to achieve a number of positive outcomes, which were ultimately adopted by the Auckland Unitary Plan Commissioners.

The Auckland Unitary Plan Commissioners agreed to continue with heritage rules for Auckland's historic areas. These included that a resource consent was needed to demolish a house built pre-1944, that the small business-zoned areas dotted around Devonport's local streets would have the same rules on height and heritage protection as the residences, that the tip of Stanley Point would remain as special character and that the whole of Devonport would be recognised as a Special Character Area.

Unfortunately, there were two significant losses for Devonport. Firstly, Devonport Heritage sought to have the Victoria Road business area designated as a Historic Heritage Area, but this was declined by the commissioners. The schedule lists the specific sites that are given this protection. Areas that are comparable to Victoria Road, and included as Historic Heritage Areas, are Karangahape Road and the Point Chevalier Shops. The Victoria Road commercial buildings were not recognised as an equal to these other Auckland business areas.

This represented a setback for the preservation of Victoria Road commercial buildings. The commissioners also introduced a new regulation; these buildings

had a pre-existing nine-metre height restriction that was overturned to allow for a thirteen-metre height. It's a complicated issue, however this permissive difference effectively compromises the integrity of Devonport's unique village.

The second loss was the removal of the volcanic viewshaft stretching along Wynyard Street to Takarunga. This viewshaft was important as a safeguard to retain the existing skyline of Devonport.

Devonport Heritage is simply a group of passionate volunteers that has long fought to challenge the loss of heritage buildings and any consequence of diminishing the peninsula's distinctive physical landscape, as provided by the maunga and seafloor. The support of the local community has been consistent and invaluable.

It is reasonable for heritage groups across Auckland to ask Auckland Council for stronger protection measures and actively seek to retain the 21,000 heritage buildings in its domain.

These areas are even more important to protect now that the city faces so much change.

In contrast, Christchurch City, which suffered great losses, plans to increase the number of heritage areas scheduled, add another 40 heritage buildings to its historic schedule and add 25 interiors for protection.

Auckland Council must not address the housing issue at the expense of heritage protections. Diminishing a place like Devonport will not create any more affordable houses but could ruin a precious taonga forever.

**Trish Deans,**  
**Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member and former Devonport Heritage co-chair**

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# Distance won't foil Olympic ambitions

Bayswater's Lukas Walton-Keim is heading back to Europe in pursuit of his Olympic dream. The kite-foiler tells Helen Vause about aiming for the 2024 games – and his side interest in another kind of thrill-seeking.



**Have board, will travel... Lukas Walton-Keim says when kite-foiling was included for the 2024 Olympics in France, he knew he wanted to be there**

We won't be seeing Bayswater-based kite-foiling champion Lukas Walton-Keim whistling around the Waitemata for very long this winter.

He's packing his bags, his kites and his boards and heading for Europe, building towards a crack at Olympic glory in the south of France in 2024.

The 25-year-old is seeking top competition in northern waters, where his sport's elite do their racing and international contests are held.

This New Zealand summer, it should have been no surprise locally that Walton-Keim took out the national title for kite-foiling for the third year in a row.

He's been called the 'King of the Waitemata' for his blistering 56 minutes 11 seconds circumnavigation of Rangitoto and Motutapu, leaving the competition well behind.

In another competition, leaping more than 16 metres above the sea on his board made him 'King of the Air'.

Although kite-foiling has been fast growing in popularity, top competition is still hard to find on the domestic scene, prompting Walton-Keim's return to European waters.

In 2019, he came home from the European championships with a bronze medal.

"I'd gone there with no idea how I would go really, or where I would be placed among the Europeans."

Covid has restricted his chances to compete internationally, but at the world championships in Sardinia, Italy, last October, he

finished in the top 10 in half his races.

"In certain conditions my speed is up there with some of the best, which is super motivating," he says.

Walton-Keim, who was joined at the championships by fellow Kiwi foiler Justina Kitchen, came home optimistic about what hard work, both on the Waitemata and overseas, could do for his future ranking.

"Once we heard kite-foiling would be in the 2024 Olympics, I knew that I wanted to be there," he says.

But before that Olympic debut for the sport, he has plenty of training and racing to do.

There's no doubt, that kite foiling has experienced a lift in status in New Zealand with the recognition as a sailing class from the Olympic organisation, he says.

When the new class was announced as one of the sailing events to be raced at Marseilles in 2024, it was hoped it would add a new level of speed and excitement to the sporting mix.

Walton-Keim was born into kiteboarding, with family business Wings and Waves established in Bayswater, bringing the new sport to the City of Sails well before he stepped onto a board.

Taking up the sport in his primary-school years, he grew up around the business of instructing others and growing the sport locally through high school, working weekends and after school.

By the time he left Takapuna Grammar

School (TGS), he had the 2014 junior kite-surfing freestyle championship under his belt and a career path in front of him.

Alongside working on his own skills, his day job is still in the family business.

While kiteboarding and foiling is mostly a game for the young and fit, he says they attract a mixture of people.

"They come in all types and all ages," he says. "And I absolutely love teaching them."

The crashes can be spectacular – including his own occasional mishaps, when something upsets the balance of the flying board. Seaweed can be the culprit, and at top speed you can hit the water very hard.

The sport's real explosion in participation followed the introduction of foils about five years ago, he says.

Kiteboarders, like many racing sailors, worked out that getting up off the water with the aid of a foil changes the game to something much faster.

A half-metre foil lifts the rider above choppy conditions.

But the whole kit still packs into the back of a car, Walton-Keim says, making the sport viable for almost anyone who wants to have a go.

When he's not whizzing across the water or riding alongside a novice, giving instructions through a headset, Walton-Keim could be flying high in the air using different equipment.

Paragliding and teaching others how to do it is the other side of his life. This too he

started young with cautious launches off small sand dunes on West Coast beaches.

“The story goes that mum (Eva Keim) saw me flying up quite high when I was only about 11 years old and I think she steered me more towards the water sports after that,” he grins.

Nevertheless, he went on to fly high in the paragliding world. In a 2018 national contest, he won his class and finished fifth overall.

Walton-Keim’s days are long and full, whether they are spent on one of the bays close to home or out west at Karioitahi beach getting novice paragliders airborne..

It’s a very good life, he says. But it can be hard on the body – the half-sitting position of the kite foiler is particularly tough on the knees.

Walton-Keim is the partner of another TGS alumna and sporting star, Eliza McCartney, who won a bronze medal at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

But last year, an achilles tendon injury meant she was unable to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics.

The couple live in Bayswater, and while Walton-Keim prepares to take off and race with his European peers, McCartney is working towards re-entering international competition.

“I have learned a lot from Eliza about being in top-level sporting competition,” he says.

“It’s lonely here trying to train on our



**Fast and furious... Walton-Keim on the water. Kite-foiling is expected to add another level of speed and excitement to Olympic sailing, with crashes sometimes part of the spectacle**

own. I tell myself I know I can do this but for me part of keeping right up there is to be checking in with the guys over there and being amongst it.”

Fundraising is never far from his mind, given the expense of long trips around Europe for months at a time.

“Just getting back and forth to Europe and funding it all is a bit of a struggle that’s never far from your mind,” he says. “I don’t really

have much experience in getting out there and finding support, but I am going to have to learn to do that.

“The thing is that it’s pretty early days in this sport. I think you are really only going to get support once there’s real awareness that you’ve made it. So for me now it’s all about just getting there. What I’ll need now to get funding in future will be really, really good results from here on.”

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# Kainga Ora given community message about tenants

The Kainga Ora government housing agency has given assurances that elderly people and families will be the preferred occupants of its major new development on the corner of Lake Rd and Bardia St, due to open mid-year.

It will not house sex offenders or other undesirable types of tenants, a meeting of interested parties, including local school principals, police and Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member George Wood, was told last week.

North Shore MP Simon Watts, who brokered the meeting, said that given the development's proximity to schools, the meeting was told there would "definitely not be any sexual offenders or those types

of individuals" housed there, Watts said.

Elderly and families would be preferred residents, he said.

"Lots of need" existed for state housing for the elderly.

Kainga Ora staff, including the organisation's regional director for north-west, Tania Jones, attended the meeting.

Watts said he wanted to get local stakeholders together in response to community concerns he had been fielding.

"There's no appetite around gangs or anything like that," he said.

Kainga Ora had committed to working with the police and schools.

Watts was satisfied that discussing issues early meant the housing agency would be

more responsive than it had sometimes been previously. "They got a clear message about community expectations."

The first homes to be occupied from the end of June will be three three-bedroom family-style dwellings and a four-bedroom home, which is set up as accessible accommodation for special-needs occupants.

From mid-September, tenants will move into the main apartment-style blocks, comprising a mix of 14 two-bedrooms units and 30 one-bedroom units.

A second smaller Kainga Ora development, further down Lake Rd, functions as transitional housing. The Bardia St block is intended for longer-term tenants.

## Further water source coming

Planning is underway to add a third water source for the lower North Shore to improve the resilience of supply, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board has been told.

At a workshop last week, Watercare's Ben Halliwell told the board that construction of the new line will run through the Kaipatiki and Waitemata board areas to provide a further supply to Devonport-Takapuna.

A \$7.5 million booster pump station planned for Westhaven will help ensure

enough water is moved across the Auckland Harbour Bridge to service growth on the wider North Shore.

Plant upgrades costing \$145 million for taking water from the Waikato River, and a replacement Huia Water Treatment Plant (\$436 million) will help secure the future water supply to the North Shore," the board was told.

The Shore receives water produced from multiple dam, river and ground sources in the south and west of Auckland.



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# AT backs down over 'Ryman route' car-park removals

Plans to axe nearly 50 street car parks in Ngataranga Rd and the surrounding area have been retracted by Auckland Transport (AT) in revised plans for the suburban 805 bus route.

Residents were told this month that just three of a raft of proposed changes will proceed.

These are to install two new bus stops at the eastern end of Ngataranga Rd, to remove substandard bus stops on the road near the corner with Regent St, and to upgrade and relocate the two existing stops on Wesley St, one of which is a heritage wooden shelter AT had wanted to remove. It will now be moved slightly further back from the kerb.

"The other changes proposed will not progress," AT said in its letter.

Fourteen car-park spaces will be lost under the revised plans, nine in Ngataranga Rd and five in Wesley St. Only one pedestrian refuge will be built on Ngataranga Rd rather than two.

AT decided to rethink its original plans in December, in the face of negative feedback about the extensive loss of parking, especially along Ngataranga Rd, to cater for a little-used bus service.

Responses from 45 people included anger at the extension of yellow lines further around intersections along the route, including onto streets buses do not travel down, and the removal of some parking spaces servicing Lake Rd shops by Kawerau Ave.

The need for two new sets of shelters on Ngataranga Rd was also questioned, along with pedestrian crossing refuges for them to be built with the loss of more parking.

Residents said street parking was already under pressure from the Ryman William Sanders Retirement Village development.

In its summary of their feedback, AT said submitters did not think AT had struck the right balance of their needs in its proposals.

Some people had noted that buses had used the route without issues for years. Oth-

ers wanted more frequency and said the lack of a bus stop on Kawerau Ave for northbound travel was a deterrent to potential users.

"There was considerable feedback to the effect that the parking loss to support a limited off-peak bus service that does not provide much value to the local community is a price that is too high for the neighbourhood," AT said.

The so-called 'Ryman route' from Devonport to Belmont operates limited hours on weekdays only. It turns off Lake Rd into Ngataranga Rd, then wends through the side streets, rejoining Lake Rd via Kawerau Ave.

Residents now have until the end of April to give feedback on the revised plans. What is not clear from AT's letter to them is what might happen for parking around the Lake Rd shops, where AT says several counter proposals have been suggested for its consideration.

The 805 currently carries an average of around 20 passengers per day.



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## Digger damaged at Narrow Neck

Police are investigating vandalism of an excavator being used to repair the seawall at Narrow Neck.

Windows of the machine were smashed where it was parked up and fenced off near the boat ramp overnight during the weekend before Easter.

Site manager Chris McKeown of contractors Fort said between \$3000 and \$4000 of damage was caused.

Work on the seawall is on track to finish mid-year, he says.

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During its 30-plus years in the business, Takapuna-based Kitchens By Design has designed and delivered over 10,000 kitchens and won over 70 nationally

recognised awards. Owner Richard Cripps, a cabinetmaker by trade and a well-respected member of the design fraternity, says that everything is just a collection of stuff without good design. And he’s right.

“Your new kitchen is going to outlive any trends that are currently floating around, so you need to think carefully about that. Don’t get too caught up in what’s happening right now,” he says. “Focus on the design. Design is your single most important consideration. Get the design right, and everything else will usually fall into place.”

Richard is incredibly proud of his team and is keen to point out that all four of his designers are DNKBA – Qualified Designers of the National Kitchen & Bathroom Association. This is the highest qualification in the country, and they all regularly attend industry events to keep up to date with the latest in materials, appliances, style and ideas.

Kitchens By Design offers a comprehensive,

concept-to-completion process that ensures every client is involved and informed at every stage of the design-and-build process. Importantly, especially during these times of supply chain issues and skills shortages, the company has a well-established group of preferred trades and craftspeople, which guarantees timelines and quality.

“We value every one of the hundreds of the satisfied clients that have come through our doors over the past thirty years,” says Richard. “And the fact that many of those clients are now coming back into our showrooms and asking us to help design their next kitchens is testament to the quality of our designers and services we offer at Kitchens By Design.”

**If you’re looking for a new kitchen, pop into Kitchens By Design’s showroom, located at 3 Byron Ave in Takapuna, or give one of its designers a call on (09) 379 3084. For inspiration, take a look at some fabulous projects at [www.kitchensbydesign.co.nz](http://www.kitchensbydesign.co.nz)**



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RayWhite

## Remember that kid who smashed her front teeth in, BMXing down Clarence Street?

---

You'd never guess by looking at her today, would you?

**This is the very same Kim Pausina.**

This is she who, being the oldest kid in Anne Street, aged over 8 at the time, thought she could nail the freshly laid, rubbled and tarred road at the very top of Clarence Street – only to wake up in hospital the next day with her two front teeth smashed in and a row of black stitches under her nose.

It's the same **Kim Pausina** who used to roll Jaffas down the aisle at The Vic Cinema on Sunday afternoons. And the same one who played 'bat down' in Windsor Reserve nearly every weekend. This is the girl whose favourite place for a swim and to run around at the end of a school day was 'Donkey Beach'. Remember when it was called that? It's the one right next to the Devonport ferry terminal.

You could be forgiven for thinking that Kim might have put all that behind her. But she hasn't, and she never wanted to. In fact, after a number of years living and working in Hong Kong, **Kim couldn't wait to get back to Devonport where she grew up.**

She was keen to send her own daughters to Devonport Primary School, the same one she went to.

She wanted to do what her Mum and Dad did in Devonport too – step up the property ladder, own a home in Devo, and have a **successful career selling real estate right here.**

Kim's Mum and Dad ran Devonport Realty for years, so she's certainly followed in their footsteps in that respect.

But Kim has also blazed her own trail. She bought and beautifully renovated a number of character properties, including five Devonport properties prior to entering the industry.

Her **wealth of local knowledge** has helped Kim sell some of the most prestigious homes on the Shore over the last seven years. Equally, being raised in the industry and being a real estate investor herself, Kim has insights that

**At the same time, Kim has built a reputation as one of the most successful real estate agents around. Not only is Kim a local girl made good. She's a local girl made good locally.**

few others are able to offer anyone selling and buying property.

She knows the schools in the area better than almost anyone, for example. Which is not surprising because as well as going to Devonport Primary, she also attended Belmont Intermediate and Takapuna Grammar School.

**Her understanding of the local market is unparalleled** too. As you might expect, given that Kim has bought, sold and renovated so many local houses so successfully.

The simple fact that **Kim loves, lives and breathes Devonport** also means that she and Edén couldn't have found a better place of work than the **Ray White office at 43 Victoria Road**, in the heart of the village. It is after all, a very unusual office – more like a cosy home than stark office space.

Drop in sometime and you'll see that just like in their own new home locally, there's a very stylish kitchen, a welcoming family room and a backyard that's great for entertaining visitors, or just relaxing with a glass of wine in.

All of which appeals to the **natural creative flair** that Kim brings to presenting her clients' properties and convinces her that Devonport is the place she is meant to be. **A place that feels home.** A place to build future memories and a place that always has been dear to her heart.

*And speaking of hearts, Kim's roots in Devonport run very deep indeed. Her Nanna and Grandad actually met in Devonport – he was on the Navy ship Achilles and brought the ship to Devonport from the States. What a great move that turned out to be.*



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021 790 552

**RayWhite**

# Food trucks prove a drawcard



**Truck treats... (from left) Ruby Fleming, Lottie Longbottom, Nella Jones and Annabelle Scovell, all 9, were among those enjoying the Food Truck Festival at Woodall Park**

Hundreds of people made the most of lingering warm weather to sample fare from food trucks parked up at Narrow Neck last Friday evening, 8 April.

Family groups were out in force for the

first visit to the area of the Food Truck Collective, which organises events across Auckland. It said it would look to repeat and expand the peninsula visit in spring.

Around 10 trucks, including one selling

alcohol, formed a dining circle on the grass of Woodall Park, behind the main car-park area. People came on foot, cycled or drove to the event, with plenty of cars parked along Seabreeze Rd.



## Lake Rd fix ‘still on’ despite AT money woes

The Lake Rd planned upgrade should not be affected by Auckland Transport (AT) budget issues, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board has been told. AT community engagement manager Paul Thompson told a board workshop last week that the organisation’s revenue had dropped and will take years to recover. Without this income, its building programme slows down, but it is proceeding with Lake Rd “as if it’s going ahead”, Thompson said. “We’ve heard nothing to the contrary. We’re proceeding with detailed design; expecting Waka Kotahi to fund.” Meanwhile, AT faces an uphill battle to get people back on public transport, Thompson said. The mask-wearing requirement and close proximity to other passengers were two reasons.

## Painted hieroglyphics pop up on pavements



### Here today... AT says its pavement markings will wear off in weeks

Painted markings have popped up on footpaths in Devonport (pictured) and Takapuna as part of an Auckland Transport (AT) Safe Speeds programme.

They identify underground services, including gas and water pipes, to allow designers of traffic-slowing measures to factor them in.

AT says: “We won’t be digging there, it’s to mark services, etc.”

In Devonport, the fluorescent markings made with temporary multi-coloured paints are visible along Victoria Rd. AT says the chalk-based product is safe and wears off in a matter of weeks, or can be waterblasted away on low-pressure settings.

Meanwhile, new town-centre low-speed zones still require public consultation and will likely come into effect late this year or early next year.

# THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## NAVY PROVIDES CLOSURE FOR ENCHANTER FAMILIES

When the stricken charter vessel Enchanter activated its emergency radio beacon on March 20, Inshore Patrol Vessel HMNZS Taupo, at sea on a training mission, set a course for North Cape, 180 miles to the north.

And despite pushing through some of the worst seas the crew has experienced, Taupo and her crew were able to contribute to the search and recovery of the five men who lost their lives.

“It was a particularly violent night at sea, and it was approaching the limits of what an Inshore Patrol Vessel can handle,” says Lieutenant Fletcher Slierendrecht, Commanding Officer. I’m sure there will be people on board who will say it was the worst night at sea in their careers. There was a six-metre wave face, with a short wave period, and wind gusting to 45 knots. We were rolling up to 40 degrees; people were getting thrown out of their bunks.”

During the night the Westpac rescue helicopter reached the floating wreckage of Enchanter, winching five fishermen



aboard. Five remained missing. Taupo took charge of the search on arrival, with four more bodies recovered. Two were transferred to Taupo and winched from the deck to a helicopter. Police divers would later find the fifth body in the wreck.

It’s about being professional, says LT Slierendrecht. “You’re focused on the

task, doing your job and letting the team do theirs.”

Back at Devonport, the Navy chaplains blessed the ship and crew, and the Navy psychologist talked to the team. “People are grateful to be involved in an operation that made a difference. We gave it a good crack to do as much as we could.”

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

Congratulations? Thanks?  
Problems? Complaints?

DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE TEL 445 5002



# North Shore Cricket Club prizewinners 2022

## Senior awards

Youth Female Bowling: Izzy Fox. Youth Female Batting: Rishika Jaswal. Bev Brentall – Best Female All-Rounder: Rishika Jaswal. Emerging Players Batting: Freddy Birch. Emerging Players Bowling /All Round: Henry Blanchard. J. Finny Cup – Special Award to TGS cricketer who is ex-NSSC: Freddy Birch. 3rd XI batting: Ashley Abraham. 3rd XI Bowling: Lewis Goodwin. Jacobs Goodwin Clinch Grade Cricket Battler Award: Andrew Boys. Res Batting – Senior A Batting: Max Clarke. Res Bowling – Senior A Bowling: Will Clarke. Knox Cup – Premier Runs: Amit Dhadwal. Dr Bennett – Senior All-Rounder: Michael Olsen. Vercoe Prem Wickets: Tendai Chitongo. Grace Gooder – Most Female Wickets: Rishika Jaswal. Eileen Henderson – Prem

and Res Wickets: Tendai Chitongo. Best Bowl Figures – Emerging Player: Henry Blanchard, 6/17 off 8 overs. Best Bowl Figures – Male: Simon Keene, 4/10. Best Bowl Figures – Female: Izzy Fox, 5/7 off 6 overs. Mr Pickwick – Prem Fielder: Sam Hinds. Don Coleman – First Ton of the Season: Riley Mudford (102 vs ECB). Harry Pitts – Highest Score Male: Amit Dhadwal, 129. Hilda Thompson – Highest Score Female: Rishika Jaswal, 75 not out. Dacre – Promising Senior: Riley Mudford. Winterbottom – Improved Senior: Michael Olsen. Cam Maingay – They Turned the Match: Riley Mudford. Ian Munro – Volunteer: Mike Duncraft. Verdun Scott – Sportsmanship: Rory Bessell. Major Jacka – Sport, Loyalty Club and Team: Logan Clinch. B P Somerville – NSSC Cricketer of the Year: Michael Olsen.



**Top performers... North Shore player of the year Michael Olsen (above) and highest premier scorer Amit Dhadwal (below)**

## Junior awards

U10 Blue Sky Trust: Brodie Robinson, MVP; Louis Gordon, MIP. U10 Fan Warehouse: Danny Mills, MVP; Charlie Richardson, MIP. U10 North Shore Toyota: Ben Hindle, MVP; Jack Bates, MIP. U10 Ride Holidays: Flynn Woolcott, MVP; Spencer Ede, MIP. U10 Sinclair's Scimitars: Rupert Lewis, MVP; Joseph Porteous, MIP. U11 enableMe Takapuna: Joshua Wesney, MVP; Ryan Turner, MIP. U11 Milford Asset Management: Harris Doddrell, MVP; Bennett Mitchell, MIP. U11 Sam Hinds: Daniel Porteous, MVP; Finn Richeboeuf, MIP. U12 Calimero Pizza T30: Samuel Cook, MVP; Carter Harrison-Tubb, MIP. U12 Planning Initiatives T20: Will Murray, MVP; Baxter McNaughton, MIP. U12 Village Chiropractic T20: Quinn Seaburg, MVP; Otis King, MIP. U12 Yarrtons T30: Theo Robinson, MVP; Luke Tibbotts, MIP. U13 Triple One Consulting: Isla McLean, MVP; Eva Murray, MIP. U13 Ben Wall – Morning T20: Will Westgate, MVP; Thomas Crawford, MIP. U13 Michael Olsen – Afternoon T30:

Leo Hobson, MVP; Felix Warringsholz, MIP. U13 Tendai Chitongo – Morning T20: Harsh Patel, MVP; James Douglas, MIP. U16 Elias Wellness Centre: Rishika Jaswal, MVP; Jasmine Perry, MIP. U16 Move Studio: Orla Langdon, MVP; Natasha Busch, MIP. Nettleton Memorial Trophy, Most Promising U13 Player: Leo Hobson. Clare Nicholson Trophy, Best Girl: Izzy Fox. Fair Play Cup: Mackenzie Campbell Cree. Sydney Ireland Trophy (Best Honest Effort): Paarth Sevak. Chairman's Trophy (Best Junior Player): Jack Jones. Rennie Cox U10 Most Promising Player: Danny Mills. Antiquarians Trophy – U11 Most Promising Player: Sam Barker. Franklin Cup – U12 Best All-Round Player: Will Taylor. Best Emerging Girl: Dorothea Waldron. Most Promising Girl – U13 Hardball Player: Isabella Watson. Little League Most Promising Player: Dominic Reed. Little League Most Promising Girl: Mikaela Topolsky. Little League Fair Play Cup: Charlie Gault. (MVP: most valuable player, MIP: most improved player.)



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# Takapuna Grammar

SCHOOL NEWS APR 22, 2022



## 2022 Excellence Assembly



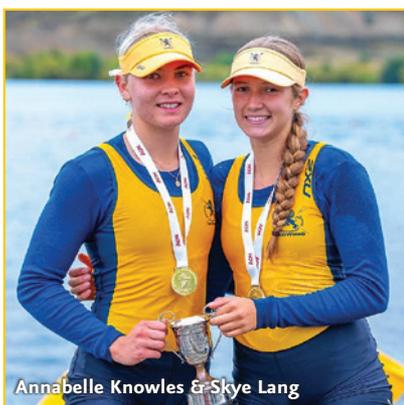
Earlier this month, we held our Excellence Assembly in Te Poho Hall, where we celebrated our successful students who achieved at the highest level in their NCEA or IB courses in 2021. Almost 300 students came across the stage to receive their academic excellence awards while the event was streamed online to parents of winners and the rest of the school to watch. Students who achieved L1 NCEA with Excellence received an academic badge, while those students who achieved L2 or IB1 with Excellence received an academic tie.



## TGS Rowers Bring Home the Maadi Medals!



Jessica Hamlin, Isabella Foster, Annabelle Knowles, Rea Kearns, Skye Lang, Karin Kozuka, Katie Halliday



Annabelle Knowles & Skye Lang

Some fantastic results from finals day at the 2022 Maadi Cup with our latest NZ national champions Skye Lang and Annabelle Knowles taking the cake in the U18 Double Scull Final to win GOLD! The girls then teamed up with crew mates Rea Kearns, Isabella Foster and Karin Kozuka in the U18 Coxed Quad to gain a SILVER! And to top off a great weekend for these hard-working girls, Skye Lang competing in the very competitive U17 Single Sculls coming home strong for a BRONZE!

Huge congratulations to all the members of the TGS Rowing Club, including the hard-working parents and coaches behind the scenes who make it all happen.

## TGS Sailing Back to the Glory Days

This year's Sailing 420 Secondary Schools Teams Racing Auckland Cup was held at Royal Akarana Yacht Club.

This was the first time TGS has competed in this event in many years. However, we showed signs of returning to our glory days when TGS ruled the water in multiple yacht classes with famous alumni such as Cameron Appleton, Gavin Brady, Paul Snow-Hansen and Logan Dunning Beck regularly bringing home medals for our school.

This prestigious regatta included over 18 schools, from as far north as Whangarei to Kings College in South Auckland. After the qualifying day, TGS placed second in their pool to advance to the quarter-finals and then semi-finals, where they faced Westlake Boys High. The racing was close and TGS didn't go down easily, giving Westlake their money's worth. They finished in a commanding bronze medal position after demolishing Kings College in the petit final sail-off.



# 20 years ago from the Flagstaff files

- Shellfish poachers have nearly wiped out cockles at Cheltenham Beach. A Cheltenham Beach Caretakers annual survey shows a substantial decrease in numbers.
- World War II jeeps line up to take veterans to the Anzac Day parade.
- Cheltenham rower Hamish Allison is selected for the under-21 New Zealand rowing team.
- Around 250 junior North Shore soccer players are banned from playing because of a dispute between the club and its ruling body.
- Jackson's Muzuem closes and is involved in a dispute with a tenant, the Venison Kitchen restaurant.
- A proposal to construct a toilet block at Torpedo Bay is knocked back by resident opposition.
- Piano-playing twins Zoe and Camille Butters win prizes at the North Shore Performing Arts Piano Competition.
- Devonport teen Reece Bell wins the Battle of Birkenhead skateboarding championship.
- A three-bedroom Cheltenham villa is on the market for \$610,000.
- The historic National Party headquarters – a villa at 9 Wynyard St – is moved to the Bay of Islands.
- North Shore Rugby Club legend Paul Vegar equals Peter Thorburn's record of 146 games for the club.
- The Flagstaff interview subject is Devonport businessman and rugby entrepreneur Lance Stephenson.

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# Set sail before dawn

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## OUT & ABOUT

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### ALLSTARS "MAGIC" THEATRE HOLIDAYS

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**The Rose Centre, 4 School Road, Belmont**

Magic is the theme for this April's AllStars musicals theatre holiday programme. Abracadabra! With songs, dances, jokes, skits and poems related to magic it is sure to be a spellbinding week!

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**Devonport RSA Poppy Day Trust**

**Poppy Day Appeal 2022**  
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Friday 22–Sunday 24 April

**“The RSA IS OLD, NOT EVERY VETERAN WE SUPPORT IS”**

Please help us as a Poppy Day collector

Many of our usual collectors are vulnerable and minimising social contact. With our pool of volunteers being severely limited, we are reaching out to the local community to help where possible as collectors this coming Poppy Day(s).

If you are willing to volunteer please contact our office on 027 271 2211 or [manager@devonportrsa.co.nz](mailto:manager@devonportrsa.co.nz) and we will be delighted to have you help us out.

While today's servicemen and servicewomen face different challenges, our support to them and their whanau continues.

Proceeds from Poppy Day collections go towards funding medical care, transport, mobility assistance, and emotional support including trauma counselling and help with treatment for post-traumatic stress, by way of examples. Locally, the RSA also provides friendship, support, and advocacy services to veterans and ex-service personnel and their families.



RSA member Sergeant Cam MacDonald Afghanistan and Bosnia Veteran



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# Devonport Mother's Day

**Mother's Day is a time for celebrating and honouring all the wonderful mums in our lives. Whether they're parenting on their own, or are with partners, or are grandmothers, auntsies, carers or big sisters, we owe them our gratitude and appreciation. What better way to show Mum how much we love her, than by spending a special day with her, doing the things she likes.**

**For inspiration on how to treat Mum, we've asked a couple of local mums and five-year-old Aria to share their ideal Devonport Mother's Day.**



**Nicky and her daughters, Amelia and Samara**

**Nicky Whitham-Blackwell, Devonport local and school Deputy Principal**

"Every Mother's Day, I feel so blessed to be the mother of my two gorgeous girls Amelia and Samara (young women now, when did that happen?), and to live in this beautiful little pocket on the planet, Devonport.

"My ideal Mother's Day would start with a coffee made by my husband, Stuart, (with Chiasso beans of course!) followed by a wander along Cheltenham Beach, up Maungauika, and along King Edward Parade into the village. There we would have brunch at either Lily's or Devon on the Wharf, facing back out to the sea and the sun. After a potter around the shops (especially Paradox Books,) bumping into friends along the way, we would finish the day with a casual dinner at Vondel, Vic Road Kitchen or Signal Hill, and maybe cap it all off with a movie and an ice-cream at The Vic Cinema. As I said, blessed."

**Rachel Wilson, full-time solo Mum supported by many**

"At 38 years old, I left New York and landed on my mother's Devonport doorstep with a sick two-year-old in my arms and four suitcases. My now

healthy 13-year-old son, Henry Wilson, was raised by his mother and grandmother and the support of this village full of people with solid values. Mother's Day is extremely important to me.

"My Mother's Day always starts with a hand-drawn card and some kind of homemade gift from Henry. It's then three blocks down the hill to see my mother, Linda, who is still ever-present in our day-to-day lives. Henry's art is always very personal and well received by her. I'll buy a pretty card from Cosi Fan Tutte for her and use it as an excuse to buy another pen from FitzgeraldTaylor to give weight to my soppy sentiments.

"Since becoming a mother, I've always struggled to buy gifts for my own mother. No 'thing' is good enough to express how I feel about my mum. Her favourite Mother's Day gift has been a feminine leather baby blue backpack from Echo Designer Boutique. My mother has chased a toddler, travelled Europe and Japan and wrangled a pre-teen whilst wearing that backpack. I also like to buy my mum sudoku books from Paradox Books and dark chocolate prune truffles from Devonport Chocolates.

"My mum is President of the Auckland Natural History Walking Club, so Mother's Day for us normally involves a walk and a picnic. Healthy



**Rachel and her mum Linda and son Henry**

salads, rice rolls, and kombucha are picked up from The Living Room; sausage rolls from Baked; and sushi from Asahi for the kids. My sister and her family will join us for the picnic before the boys will all race off to the skatepark or the new pump track, both built by passionate locals.

"As a teenager, I remember my mother saying 'being a mother can be a thankless job'. We lived abroad. She didn't have her mother or a connected village to support her. I can't say thank you enough to my mum for giving Henry and me a new beginning here in Devonport."



**Aria with her mum Kate**

**Aria Walden, aged 5. Her mum and dad, Kate and Ben, run Soulsprite Fitness Studio**

"My mum loves cakes and flowers and chocolate. I'm making a Mother's Day card with a picture of her and me. My mum doesn't need make-up, she looks like a diamond. I'm going with my dad and sister to buy some flowers at Devonport Flowers and a big piece of cake from Lucy's Living Room - Sam's dog next door at Vondel likes me.

"Then mum and I are going for a date to the opshops for pretty clothes or trainers, and there could be a toy for me! We'll go to some fancy café for a milkshake and see Young-Wa and Senile at Devonport Deli Cafe. We're going to go to Vic Road Kitchen with my Grandmum and Nan - they're my parents' mums and we love each other."



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## Mother's Day Giveaway

Tell us about a mother you think deserves a special gift this Mother's Day.

Post about her on our Devonport Village Facebook @devonportvillage

Winners will be notified on Saturday, 7th May.

Prize packs include fabulous gifts from Frank Pilates, Sugar Suite Hair Design, Devonport Chocolates, Blue Illusion, Magic Broomstick (Segway) Tours, Clean Green Computers, Echo Design Boutique, FitzgeraldTaylor, Cosi Fan Tutte & Fish Kitchen.

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**Mother's**  
DAY

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## Three generations join in tapa collaboration



**Family effort... Sulieti Fieme'a Burrows (left), her artist daughter Tui Gillies and granddaughter Aroha Gillies, aged eight, all contributed to this tapa-based artwork entitled *Three Generations***

The approach Tui Gillies takes to her art is the very embodiment of the ideas behind the group show, *Matrilineal*, that she features in at the Depot Artspace.

Gillies paints on tapa cloth which is first traditionally decorated by her Tongan mother Sulieti Fieme'a Burrows. Now her eight-year-old daughter Aroha is joining in, with each contributing their artistic expression and taking an old craft into new territories.

The small group exhibition explores ideas of intergenerational female knowledge and how this is keeping traditions alive across Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa (the Pacific).

It's an idea Gillies is passionate about. She and her mother have spoken about and shown tapa pieces internationally.

For the last 10 years, Gillies, as a largely self-taught artist, has been exploring tapa as a canvas for her painting.

Knowing of her work, gallery curator Nina Dyer invited her to participate in *Matrilineal*, and through conversation the idea of involving Aroha evolved.

"I used to watch my mother," says Gillies.

Over time, Aroha began adding her own fine brushstrokes onto the bark-cloth rubbings her mother made. And now she has also gone from being an onlooker to a painting partici-

pant. "She's good with mixing colours," says Gillies. "She just throws it on. The child's mind is quite free."

This adds an exuberant, expressive element to the detailed work.

The trio's combined contributions can be seen in their first joint work at the Depot. It shows intricate oceanic motifs and a boat with three figures on a tapa background, enlivened by Aroha's sunset-toned sky.

Gillies says her mother is a great teacher of arts, crafts and bakery.

Before moving to New Zealand with her European builder husband, Burrows would sell her tapa at the market in Vava'u, carrying on a family tradition. "Even my grandmother sold it to people on the ships," says Gillies. "She was taught to say 'hello palagi'."

After settling in South Auckland in 1978, her mother began exchanging tapa within the community for other goods. "She would also take the old cloth and paint imagery on the other side of it to sell in the markets."

The price did not match the time and effort put into tapa making, says Gillies. "It is definitely undervalued."

From being involved in the art world, she sees it can be better appreciated. The mother-daughter duo have spoken about tapa

and taken workshops about it in recent years at universities and textile-craft gatherings in Hawaii, Spain and England.

Covid-19 has put paid to their travels for now. But Gillies is on a mission to keep growing the audience who appreciate it.

Her childhood interest in art led her to studying for a year at Manukau Institute of Technology, but it was only about 10 years ago that she really "began taking art seriously".

The mother of three is working next towards a solo show to help more New Zealanders see tapa as the treasure she knows it is. And to see it used in new ways, including possibly more collaborations with Aroha if she remains keen.

The family sources plain tapa made by women in Tonga. "So much work goes into it," says Gillies.

First, paper mulberry trees, known as hiapo in Tongan, must grow for two to three years to provide bark, which is beaten to make the ngatu (tapa). Then comes the decorative aspect. Burrows explains that dyes are traditionally the well-known browns, but also come in yellow and red tones, providing subtle variation.

"We use traditional stencils, which you put under the cloth to bring out the patterns," says Gillies. Rather than colouring the stencil patterns with the browns obtained from mangrove



root as would happen in the islands, they use more easily obtainable Indian ink.

The wooden stencils they use are 80 to 100 years old and were rescued from a relative in the islands. "They kept them wrapped up in a cloth so they wouldn't get damp."

After the rubbing comes the artistic overlay from Gillies, and now from young Aroha.

"It's a magic cloth," says Gillies.

The women have helped revive hiapo growing for the making of the bark cloth in Falevai, Vava'u, where it had all but died out. In 2018, they received a Creative New Zealand Pasifika Heritage Art Award.

Burrows was also made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2020, recognising her wider contributions to Tongan art and education. Her traditional necklaces have been acquired by Auckland and Otago Museums.

Carrying on respecting the history of tapa is part of Gillies' practice and ties with the idea of *Matrilineal* to acknowledge ancestors.

On her father's side, Aroha has historic family ties to Devonport, although for now it's the beaches that excite her and her two older brothers most about the area on visits from Manurewa.

Aroha's Scottish grandfather, Iain Gillies, lived as a young boy with his family in Lake Rd in the 1940s and went through St Leo's School.

Iain went on to play for North Shore United and once made the newspaper for playing three games in one day, including for the senior team.

In the 1950s, the family returned to Scotland and Iain was signed for a time by Glasgow's Celtic. He ended up being drawn back to the sunshine of New Zealand, playing football in Gisborne, before returning to the North Shore. Iain convinced his wider family and his wife's brothers, the Applebys, to emigrate too, with one settling in Owens Rd. Now Iain's children, Catherine and Iain Patrick, keep the Gillies family name going locally, living in the Devonport and Takapuna area.

• *Matrilineal* runs at the Depot Artspace until 4 May.

# BODY LINE

## by Guy Body



# VICTORIA THEATRE DEVONPORT



### NOW SHOWING

Elizabeth: A Portrait in Parts (E) 89min	NEW
The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent (R13) 107min	NEW
The Bad Guys (PG) 100min	NEW
The Last Bus (M) 86min	NEW
The Lost City (M) 112min	NEW
Operation Mincemeat (TBA)	

Preview Screenings 22-25 APR  
 The Dutch Film Festival:  
 My Father is an Airplane (PG) 91min 23 APR

### COMING SOON

Downton Abbey 2: A New Era (TBA) 125min	28 APR
Escape from Mogadishu (R13) 121min	28 APR
The Vic Open Mic Night	28 APR
EuroTeens Short Film Night (R13) 65min	1 MAY
The Dutch Film Festival: The Promise of Pisa (M) 105min	1 MAY
The Big Bike Film Night 2022	2 MAY
Doctor Strange: In the Multiverse of Madness (TBA) 127min	Night Before Screening 4 MAY

### SPECIALS

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



We will be operating under the Covid Protection Framework with My Vaccine Pass regulations in place. For more information please visit our website.

### SPECIAL SCREENING

The Vic is proud to host special film screenings as part of the upcoming Dutch Week Celebrations.

My Father is an Airplane  
 (Mijn Vader is Een Vliegtuig)  
 Saturday 23 April @ 7.30pm

The Promise of Pisa  
 (De Belofte van Pisa)  
 Sunday 1 May @ 7.30pm

We welcome all to join us as part of the Dutch Film Festival! Tickets are available now.

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