

The Devonport Flagstaff

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2021/2022



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July 15, 2022

AN INDEPENDENT VOICE

**Popular Holy Trinity vicar
steps down... p4**

**Peninsula shaken on
crazy day of crime... p13**

**Interview: Kāinga Ora
architect Ken Davis... p18**

Woodall Park a slam dunk for sports: multi-hub promoters

Basketball star Tom Abercrombie is spearheading a drive to deliver better community sports facilities for Devonport.

New basketball courts are just part of the plan for a sports hub at Woodall Park.

How to advance this has been quietly sounded out in recent talks between local clubs,

community representatives and council staff.

Having local-resident Abercrombie on board is adding impetus and a promise of practical help with basketball-facilities development and supportive sponsors.

“As I’m coming to the end of my basketball playing career, I’m interested in giving back

to my local community where I was born and raised,” the veteran Breakers player and Tall Black said. “Not just for basketball but other sports as well.”

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member and Narrow Neck resident Toni van Tonder, who is among those

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Local hero aims at facilities upgrade



Court case... Pro basketballer Tom Abercrombie is part of a team in the community scoping improved sports facilities at Woodall Park, Narrow Neck



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Dairy owners shaken by early-hours ram-raid

Nimesh and Priti Patel were watching a movie in the home above their Elizabeth Dairy in Belmont when they heard the loud bang of a ram-raid in the early hours of Monday.

They first thought the noise was a car crash, but the dairy alarm went off and, on running downstairs, the couple realised it was a planned raid by a large group of young people.

Though it was over in minutes, it left them shaken, and faced with a massive clean-up.

“We had nine people in the store, under 16, I guess,” Nimesh said.

“There was a girl, she was telling everyone: ‘Grab it, grab it,’” Priti said.

While her husband was on the phone to police, she yelled that the police were coming and to get out.

The offenders fled in two stolen cars shortly after 1am, taking “lollies, ice-cream, cigarettes, everything”. A third stolen vehicle had been



Left with a mess... Priti (left) and Nimesh Patel the morning after the raid on their Elizabeth Dairy

used to smash the store’s glass frontage.

Priti said the small store had been left in a big mess.

It was the first ram-raid or burglary the couple have experienced in their seven years owning the shop.

The raid was the second such youth crime in

the area in days, with a Lake Rd, Takapuna, liquor store similarly targeted by a big group of young people just after 2am on Friday, 8 June.

“This area is supposed to be a safe neighbourhood, said Priti. She was thankful their five-year-old son had slept through the incident.

Police arrested 10 young people who were tracked by Eagle helicopter driving south in two cars over the Harbour Bridge after the raid. They ranged in age from 12 to 17. Stolen property was recovered.

One of the vehicles was spiked and stopped on St Johns Rd. The second came to a stop near Westfield Manukau.

A police spokesman said six youths had been referred to Youth Aid and four others were due to appear in the Youth Court.

Concerned customers of the dairy responded by dropping by and starting a Givealittle page.

Flagstaff, ‘Jabbed’ campaign recognised in awards

The Devonport Flagstaff was runner-up best community newspaper in New Zealand for 2021.

And its ‘Jabbed’ campaign won best idea/innovation in the recently announced New Zealand Community Newspapers Association Awards.

The Flagstaff was also runner-up in the best community-involvement section for its coverage of the threat to heritage buildings in the suburb.

Flagstaff managing editor Rob Drent was runner-up in the best senior journalist category.

Judges said the Jabbed campaign “cut across the various and often vocal proponents/opponents of vaccinations to provide a practical tool for shoppers” to know that staff in shops

displaying the Flagstaff-initiated signage were all fully vaccinated.

Waiheke Island’s *Gulf News* was awarded best community paper, with judges saying it and the Flagstaff both covered their communities in depth. “Almost anything that moves – or doesn’t move – in Devonport and Waiheke and will end up in the local paper.”

On its community-involvement entry, judges noted the Flagstaff had been involved in protecting heritage for 25 years. The entry covered the recent central government push for housing intensification.

“The Devonport Flagstaff took a leadership role as the story unfolded, writing editorials, and running letters and opinion pieces.”

On Drent’s news-journalist entry, judges

said: “Rob’s portfolio was the result of a reporter who has his ears close to the ground and knows his community extremely well.”

His entry included exclusives on a planned council downgrade of heritage buildings in Devonport; the true cost of the “free” Greer Twist sculpture; and the empty council house on the waterfront which Auckland Council could not afford to repair.

Drent said he was especially pleased the Jabbed campaign was recognised, as the community had really got behind it.

“We have been a finalist in best paper before but this is the first time we have been awarded runner-up. It is a real tribute to our team who have worked hard to keep the news flowing during Covid.”

The Devonport Flagstaff
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NZ COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER AWARDS
Best Community Involvement:
2016, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2008, 2005
Best Special Project/Supplement: 2016, 2020
VOYAGER/CANON MEDIA AWARDS
Community Reporter of the Year: Winner 2018,
Community Newspaper of the Year: Finalist 2017

MANAGING EDITOR: Rob Drent
PUBLISHER: Peter Wilson
CHIEF REPORTER: Janetta Mackay
SENIOR REPORTER: Christina Persico
DESIGN: Brendon De Souza
COPY EDITOR: Jo Hammer

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NEXT ISSUE: July 29
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Wakatere sailors win European championship

Wakatere Boating Club sailors George Lee Rush and Seb Menzies have enjoyed international success ahead of the Youth Sailing World Championships in Holland this week.

The duo, both aged 17, won the 29er title at the Kiel Week regatta in Germany last month, before taking out the European championship in Copenhagen last week. They are relishing the chance to compete on the world stage after several seasons stuck in New Zealand due to Covid-19.

“Its awesome to get back into international racing,” said Lee Rush, speaking to the Flagstaff from Copenhagen.

They were looking at the European Championships as a training regatta ahead of the youth worlds in The Hague, but ended up winning by some margin.

Most regattas have qualifying rounds and then finals, but at the worlds it is full-on competition among 30 teams from the first gun, with each country entering only one team. “Its quite a different format from usual,” Lee Rush said. “Its intense right from the start.”

At Kiel, the pair’s first international regatta together, they finished 13 points ahead of the second-placed team, winning eight of their first nine races. At the European champs they won three out of eight races.

The youth champs may be their last regatta in the class, which favours lightweight racers.

The duo, both in their last school year, have a combined weight of around 132 kgs, which is heavy by 29er standards. Strong winds are needed for them to do well. “We try to manage the weight as best we can, but there is only so much you can do,” Lee Rush said.

After the world champs they plan a switch to the 49er class where weights are generally around 155-160kg per pair. “We’re still growing so we should move into that range.”

On a roll... George Lee Rush (with bag) beside Seb Menzies on the podium after winning the European Championships in Copenhagen. Below: Racing in New Zealand prior to their European campaign.



Bank lending slows

Bank mortgage lending has slowed considerably over the last 6mths down around 35%. This is why banks have pushed the mortgage interest rates well higher than the increases in the OCR and now we are even seeing a cut in the 2 yr fixed back to 5.40% and some banks are offering cash backs up to 1% to attract new loan business.

Along with less demand for debt, the easing of the restrictive CCCFA rules will hopefully see banks making finance a little easier to obtain than over the last 6 months or so. They won't like this weak mortgage demand and may well look to increase their lending to commercial property and businesses who have been suffering a credit squeeze due to their higher use of bank capital.

Non bank lending is on the rise albeit more expensive but it's often for a short term solution only so don't dismiss it and speak with us before making your borrowing decisions.

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Holy Trinity vicar steps down after 15 years

Devonport's long-standing vicar of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Charmaine Braatvedt, is stepping down.

The popular Braatvedt – who is recovering from a mild Covid infection – said she was “there or thereabouts” for retirement. But her decision had been prompted by wanting to be on hand for her elderly mother.

“Mum is turning 94 and needs helps in South Africa and I want the flexibility to be there.”

Her mother had been a huge support during her training and now it was her turn to help out. “She always came over and supported me and the children.”

Braatvedt has told parishioners she will finish on 16 October, ending 30 years in the parish, 15 of them as vicar.

Her intention was then to spend three months in South Africa.

“Everyone can do what I do here, but I'm the only one that can do what is needed there,” she told the Flagstaff.

In her time as vicar, the church's focus has been on integration with the community, which included the establishment of a food bank and encouraging use of facilities.

As part of that, a major restoration an extension of the church hall is well under way.



Community outreach... Charmaine Braatvedt outside Holy Trinity with care packages available during a 2021 Covid lockdown

Money sought to duplicate Devonport's Matariki success

Devonport is looking for another \$15,000 to repeat last month's successful Matariki celebration next year.

At a workshop of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board, Devonport Business Association manager Katherine Downs said the association would use part of its \$30,000 in board funding to mark Matariki in 2023.

Downs said between 1500 and 2000 people had gathered for the lantern walk up Takarunga on 25 June.

“I'd hoped for 300 people to turn up for the hikoi, and it was just astounding, obviously, the enjoyment of the community and value for the community.”

The event was partially funded by the

Local Activation Fund, a joint programme to revitalise Auckland after the months in lockdown last year.

It would be a challenge to come up with that money again, Downs said.

“With the local board support, we'd still be trying to find about \$15,000, and then we'd be fine.”

Board member Toni van Tonder suggested taking footage of the event to Auckland Unlimited to help attract support.

“I think that presents an amazing opportunity for Devonport to really own the Matariki space,” she said.

The business association receives \$30,000 from the local board for the 2022/23 year, which

started this month and ends 30 June 2023.

The money is tagged to fund Marketview reports of business activity (\$5000), and social media and communications (\$5000), with the remainder paying for live music this summer and Matariki in 2023.

Downs said businesses are doing it tough. “They're getting a reasonable amount of customers, but their biggest challenge is absolutely getting staff.”

In hospitality, full-time staff and chefs were hard to come by, and many cafes and restaurants were forced to reduce hours simply because of a lack of workers.

But businesses were “still standing, and that's incredible”, she said.

Gill in form ahead of big events

Devonport shotputter Jacko Gill is heading to the world championships and Commonwealth Games with a new personal best under his belt.

In an ideal lead-up to the pinnacle events, Gill – who has been training with his parents Nerida and Walter – threw 21.58m at a meeting at AUT Millennium Stadium on 2 July.

It was one of a series of six throws all over the 21m mark and betters his previous

record set a year ago by 3cm.

Gill believes topping 22m is within his sights.

This would put him closer to the New Zealand number one and Olympic medallist Tom Walsh, whose record is 22.90m.

Both men will be at the world champs which start this weekend in Eugene, Oregon, in the United States. The Games in Birmingham follows at the end of the month.

Cemetery given heritage nod

O'Neills Point Cemetery in Bayswater has been recognised as a Category 1 Historic Place.

The cemetery is the site of early settler and military graves, including those of World War I Pacific Island soldiers who were encamped at Narrow Neck.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga has advised Auckland Council that the designation will take effect from 20 July.

Theatre coach survives two decades of local dramas

Five years ago, Devonport Drama's Geoff Allen said to shoot him if he was still going at the 20-year mark. But now, with a 20th anniversary show, *Alien Attack*, done and dusted, he says he's not finished yet.

"I've always thought I'll get this group of students through and then I'll quit, you know, I'll move on. But then there's another group of amazing kids.

"Somehow, I get their brains and their weird, twisted humour."

Alien Attack is an example: during the making of a movie about an alien invasion, Earth is invaded, and the film crew find themselves the last humans alive. In desperation they come up with a plan involving Shakespeare to survive.

"As much as it was crazy and Pythonesque, it had a sort of environmental commentary undertone."

Allen says he's written about 60 plays in the 20 years, and taught about 2000 students.

His own three children went through, and when the youngest left two years ago, "for me that was going to be a big thing – what's it going to be like to be there and one of my kids isn't in it?"

Along with the wild and wacky, Allen and his students have done versions of more traditional works, such as *The Iliad*, *The Three Musketeers*, and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

"I think next year I'm going to do a version of *Cyrano* set in New Zealand in the Land Wars."

About a dozen students have gone on to have careers in the arts, but he doesn't encourage that. In fact, he does the opposite.

"Because if you really want something you won't listen to anybody – you'll just go for it.

"I don't really think I teach them anything – I think I facilitate experience."

His goal was to offer a boutique youth theatre that gave value for money, and wasn't caught up in pass marks. No certificates are given. "It's all about experience in the now."



No curtain call... After 20 years teaching drama in Devonport, Geoff Allen reckons he still has a few years left

He also wrote plays to fit the participants, including children on the autism spectrum. "We had one kid who wouldn't talk, so I just gave him a horn and created a sort of Harpo Marx character."

And what does he want Devonport Drama to achieve in the next five years? "I'd like us to tell a few more of our stories. I'd like to survive, basically," he quips.

"I think just to grow to be a really positive experience where where they learn about

giving to others, about manaakitanga, about aroha."

He says he's only got a few years left. "I did actually ask a couple of people I know if they want to take it over in a year or so, but it didn't work out really," Allen says.

"It's like making a custom-built car for your body specs – it's hard to pass it on.

"I get a high out of their enjoyment really. It's still fresh for them, so I just keep going, I guess."



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Devonport Rotary Club



Devonport Rotary BMX Pump Track

- The Pump Track is up and running!
- Planning started 2019 after discussions with local riders
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- Clay surface was chosen for safety and reshaping modifications if required
- Council provided funding for the plans and foundation materials
- Gill and Gundry got in behind us big time and we have gone beyond stage 1 and built about 300m of track
- Thanks to all the following:
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 - Hayden Rollett
 - Brett Garea and the BGE team
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Retirement village hit by Covid

A Covid outbreak has swept Devonport's William Sanders Retirement Village with 42 cases spread in its care centre and among apartment owners confirmed by the middle of last week.

The symptoms of those who were infected were mostly mild, a spokesperson for operators Ryman said. "The number changes all the time as residents recover."

Measures were in place to limit spread in the village of 317 residents. No one from the village has required off-site hospital care.

For the care centre, which comprises the resthome and hospital units, activities and van outings were on hold, the spokesperson said.

"We have asked relatives to delay visiting if possible just as a circuit-breaker to stop the transmission and also to protect our team."

Relatives who wished to visit for compassionate reasons, which included having a loved one in palliative or end-of-life care, could still do so.

They needed to complete a negative RAT test before visiting, wear full PPE, and stay in the resident's room for the duration of their visit.

This is the second recent outbreak in the care centre. In early June four cases occurred, sparking similar visitor limitations.

Independent residents in apartments also face restrictions this time round.

"We have temporarily paused larger gatherings such as happy hour until things settle down again," said the spokesperson.

Residents had been reminded to be vigilant with mask wearing, to maintain social distancing and to stay at home if feeling unwell or showing symptoms.

The William Sanders outbreak follows news that North Shore Hospital has had cases among patients in hospital for other reasons.

Against a backdrop of rising community transmissions, the Ministry of Health said early last week that hospital visitors had spread the infection to patients.

Contact tracing showed at least five cases of the virus had "very likely" been passed on, a spokesperson for the Waitemata branch of Health New Zealand said.

"This has created a scenario in which patients have then transmitted the virus on to other patients in their room or ward."

Visitors who were sick have been reminded to stay away from the hospital.

All visitors needed to wear masks and some sections of the hospital were not open to visitors or were restricting numbers.

Abercrombie floats hub idea

From page 1

approached by Abercrombie, is enthusiastic about the potential for progress. "His brand alone will help," she said.

Van Tonder recently set up meetings with the Devonport Squash Club and the Waitemata Golf Club. The clubs lease the council land surrounding the park's existing two tennis courts, basketball court and skate area.

The clubs saw the potential in groups co-operating on future facilities, she said.

Last week, she and Abercrombie met Devonport Rotary president Bob McGuigan to sound out the organisation's willingness to be an umbrella organisation for the project, if needed, as it was for the new pump-track nearby.

McGuigan told the Flagstaff he was keen for a concept plan to be developed to see what was possible. "It's something that someone needs to initiate and then get council interested in."

Van Tonder said it was early days, but she saw an opportunity to deliver something the community would welcome. "Having a youth sports hub has always been an aspiration."

The local board already has \$20,000 set aside to investigate Woodall Park use, she noted. Renewals money from Auckland Council's parks budget may also be available, with the old concrete courts in a tired state and the slab needing releveling. Van Tonder wants to discuss with council staff how improvements might be staged.

Board members have previously spoken of the need for more youth facilities, especially for those growing out of playgrounds.

Abercrombie said a better surface and a couple of new hoops and half-court areas would be a great starting place. "They get used quite a bit already."

Van Tonder noted better surfaces would absorb more noise. The courts could also easily be marked out for pickle ball, a fast-growing sport that appeals to older players. Other possibilities include a tennis backboard, and a mini-golf course and shared toilet facilities on the surrounding area.

She said the sports clubs saw the potential to build visibility.

Abercrombie said basketball numbers have surged since he started playing at primary school. "There are so many kids playing and they need places to play."

For the next generation – including his three young children, aged 6, 4 and 2 – he would like to see more facilities of all kinds that don't require a drive up Lake Rd.

He can call on the help of Court Kings, a company he represents as a brand ambassador. It builds courts for schools and private customers. "I'd just love to see a hub being used by as many kids as possible and all ages and walks of life."

Abercrombie is currently recharging at home in the Breakers off-season, after a tough couple of Covid-disrupted years for the club, which has played two NBL seasons based in Australia.

Having just turned 35, Abercrombie is looking towards a post-playing future. He wants to finish an MBA he is two-thirds through and has sports management in mind for when he finishes as a player.

Holiday gives sickness-hit schools welcome reprieve

Rising Covid case numbers in the community, winter flu bugs and staff absences made for a stressful end of Term 2 for peninsula schools.

Principals say they have been counting down to a two-week holiday circuit-breaker after the challenges of trying to cover classes with relieving teachers.

“There hasn’t been a single week when all staff have been at school this term,” said Hauraki Primary principal Clarinda Franklin.

With insufficient relief cover available in the last few weeks, Vauxhall Primary principal Gary Lawrence said he had been forced to split some children among other classes.

Stanley Bay Primary principal Lucy Naylor said: “Staff are absolutely exhausted and are looking forward to the holiday and a time to recharge.”

School activities have largely continued, despite the staffing juggles, the principals say.

“We haven’t had to cancel school events, but there have been times it has been close,” Naylor said. “Staff have been hit hard with Covid and flu. Recovery times are definitely longer, putting a huge strain on staffing and school functioning.”

But everyone had pulled together to keep the school open, including a pool of local relievers, who were also parents at the school.

Belmont Primary principal Bruce Cunningham said “wonderful relievers” had allowed for minimal disruption to learning.

Like everyone else, he hoped Term 3, starting on 25 July, would bring a return to normal, but added: “We will take advice from the Ministry of Education regarding traffic-light settings.”

St Leo’s Catholic Primary School is urging continued mask-wearing among students, staff and visitors during the cold and flu season.

“We will be continuing this in Term 3,” said principal Vimi Chandra.

Being a small school, it had managed okay, despite seeing more absences at the end of Term 2. Home learning was available for students who needed to isolate, she said.

Cunningham said absences among both students and teachers had been on the rise in the last few weeks of term.

But at both Stanley Point and Hauraki, student Covid absences had tapered off. “However, we do have quite a number of children away with flu-related bugs,” said Franklin.

Hauraki had just one positive Covid case and six household contacts on a single day of the last week of term, compared with more off earlier, she said.

Among the last week’s staff absences, three were Covid-related, also down from the numbers in preceding weeks.

“Our Year 4-6 teachers and staff have continued to wear masks all term. That seems to have helped,” she said. This was a school expectation that virtually all parents had

supported. “It is intended that will continue throughout Term 3.”

Cunningham also said he was sure mask wearing among older students had helped reduce the spread of Covid and of colds and flu.

While there were no current plans to switch to online learning, he said if this were needed the school would be prepared.

“Our staff morale is extremely high due to the wonderful support of our families, the attitude of the students and knowing there will hopefully be a circuit-breaker come the holidays.”

Lawrence said Vauxhall had distance-learning plans ready, but hoped they would not be needed. It was evident children needed to be at school with their teachers and friends. This helped their learning and development, he said.

“Learning between the ages of 5 and 11 is not just about reading, writing and mathematics. It includes, among other things, being confident, resilient, considerate and showing self-control amongst your peers. These dispositions set children up for life and in our opinion have the most impact on a child’s future learning and lifelong happiness and fulfilment.”

A bright spot of last term had been when Vauxhall co-ordinated the inter-school cross-country, said Lawrence. This enabled all local primary schools to come together for the first time since 2019.

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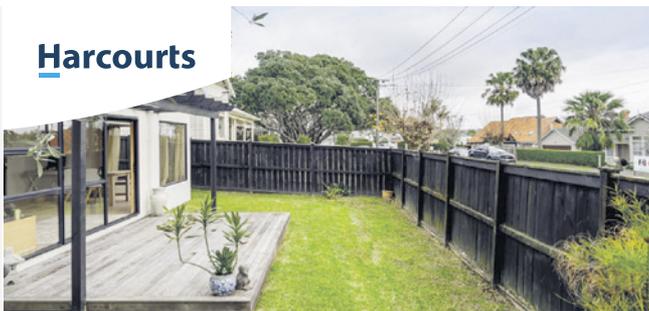
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ADVERTORIAL

Consultancy eyes local upsides in main-street move

After 18 years, local chartered accounting and investment consulting firm Axiome has moved to a prominent main street location. Coinciding with this move, Devonport local and mother-of-three Sheryl Beaumont has become a full partner and shareholder in the accounting business.

“I was one of the first employees at Axiome and having worked here for 16 years, I am very fortunate to now be jointly leading our capable team’s tax and accounting business,” says Beaumont, who went to the University of Otago and, in her career before joining Axiome, had a six-year stint working in investment banking at JP Morgan in the UK.

The step up to partner comes as the business moves to the next stage of its evolution building on Axiome’s uniquely integrated approach to helping people with their finances, from business growth and accounting compliance to investment matters.

To accommodate the expansion, Axiome recently moved offices from Wynyard St to the first floor of the former ANZ Bank premises on the corner of Victoria Rd and Flagstaff Tce, a prominent spot overlooking Victoria Rd, the Devonport Library and Windsor Reserve.

The move shows the confidence Axiome’s partners have in the future development of Devonport. “There are a lot of creative businesses and successful professionals in Devonport, and we’re happy to be positioned in the heart of the village to serve them. Along with online communications and a short ferry ride to the CBD, Devonport businesses can have a reach far beyond the village,” says de Lisle, who founded the business in 2004, after a career in the corporate world, including at the Reserve Bank and in a finance and managerial role at national law firm Chapman Tripp.

Beaumont says that the recent Matariki lantern hikoi up the main street showed Devonport’s great sense of community, and people’s desire to support local initiatives.



“It was great to see all the restaurants and bars full and open on Matariki night, and well patronised by locals,” she says. “And now we just need those tourists to come flooding back into Devonport.”

“Like many firms we successfully navigated working from home during the pandemic, but the team was keen to regroup in the new office and restore our team culture and direct client interaction,” de Lisle says. “The team has incrementally grown through the years with Axiome adopting a flexible working approach long before it became the norm. This has served the firm well in attracting and retaining quality people who value a healthy work-life balance. In fact, the average length of time at the firm is well over 10 years.”

Both the accounting and investment advisory sides of the business are growing. In

a more complex investment arena, independent advice is often sought and Axiome’s integrated approach to financial affairs works across client needs whether in the business development stage, accumulation or wealth creation phase, or the planning of retirement cash flows. Trust law has also become more complex with higher compliance and beneficiary reporting requirements to be navigated.

Axiome is well-networked, draws on the wisdom of an independent investment committee, and often functions as a conduit for its diverse set of clients to connect with experts in specialty fields such as with US and UK cross-border tax and investment issues.

The breadth of client base is testament to the level of personal service provided by the team at Axiome. “We’re pleased to work with individual businesspeople, startups, national firms, family trusts, SMEs and multi-nationals.”

Interestingly, Beaumont has her own ‘side hustle’ in a field far removed from the accountancy world – she’s a self-published crime-fiction writer with eight novels to her credit.

Both she and de Lisle have strong links in the community as Devonport residents who both have had children attending local schools and sports clubs.

The firm is well positioned for growth with a clear desire to build on the top-drawer reliability and expertise their clients depend on.



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Armed police converge on crazy day of crime

Two crime callouts on the same morning had armed police converging on the Devonport peninsula last week, sending schools into lockdown and rumour mills into overdrive.

"It's like the US," said a senior citizen, standing on her street corner watching multiple police train guns on a Bardia St house.

With worried parents learning their children at nearby schools had been placed into lockdown mid-morning due to fears an armed man was on the loose in Belmont, and Devonport residents witnessing a separate car-jacking unfold, 7 July was the morning big-city-style crime reached into quiet local neighbourhoods.

Except no-one was shot and no weapons were found.

It took well into the afternoon for the tension to subside on Bardia St, where around a dozen police armed offenders squad members and two dogs were deployed between



Standing guard... Police block the entrance to Bardia St

road blocks at Lake Rd and Coronation St.

After closing in on a house, armed police crouched behind cars for cover and used a megaphone to address a supposed occupant, but later searched the house and left the area without making any arrests.

The school lockdown was lifted when the roadblocks went up, but not before erroneous

social-media rumours spread fear between some students and the wider community.

Parents told of getting texts from frightened children, although another said hers had just been watching movies in class.

Principals said the lockdown requested by police lasted just over half an hour and was handled smoothly.

Resident caught up in chase-and-taser drama

Devonport resident Andrew White was getting ready for a work Zoom meeting at 9.45am, when a quiet day at home turned into one he will never forget.

"I just heard this almighty bang, so I knew it was a car crash," he says. He ran out his front door onto Domain St to help and found other neighbours rushing down the quiet side street to where one car had smashed into the back of a parked vehicle.

Then he spotted a man across the road. "A guy who didn't have a shirt on and was wearing tracksuit pants."

The man kicked through a gate of a house opposite, with a policeman and several other men in pursuit. After looping around the house he emerged back on the road, looking confused, before charging past White up the front steps of his villa.

With his partner and five-year-old daughter inside, White said: "At that point I had to do something. I chased him."

The man thumped White's closed front door, realised the porch was a dead end and ran down the stairs, but seeing White blocking his way back to the street he headed toward the side of the house. "He was pretty fast, he was quite a big guy," White said.

He was also incoherent and mumbling, either under the influence or dazed from being in the crash. He had superficial bleeding.

By this stage the first policeman was on White's property, yelling warnings. "He had his taser out," White said.

"He was tasered once and that did nothing. He was moving fast enough that when he got tasered a second time he fell on the deck."

White held one of the man's arms to help secure him as the police officer handcuffed



Close to home... Andrew White chased a man who ran onto his property and saw him tasered by police

him. The Flagstaff first spoke with White, who works in IT, shortly after the incident on Thursday last week. He was hosing off the man's blood from his front steps, trying to keep his young daughter from coming out to see it. His focus was on battening down the hatches after the 10-minute trauma.

Four days later, he said: "My daughter has mentioned it several times, and she was upset at the time, and my partner is still processing it."

He was just glad his other children, aged 7 and 9, weren't around at the time, that he was working from home, and that his partner had

the presence of mind to lock the front door after hearing the initial commotion. "I would have felt terrible if I wasn't home. At least I had some say over the outcome by being here."

Police said events started when a man reported acting suspiciously by a commercial building in Hauraki just before 9am fled when they arrived. They allege he stole a car and headed down Lake Rd, with police following. He was nearly stopped on Church St, before abandoning the vehicle and running into Holy Trinity Church on Vauxhall Rd.

Tradesmen working on the hall renovation next door gave chase. Vicar Charmaine Braatvedt said she understood the man avoided being cornered inside by using considerable force to burst through the church's double front doors.

From there he ran off, allegedly stealing two more cars. One was a Nissan Leaf taken from a woman, aged 54, who was pulled from the vehicle at the top of Rattray St. It was driven erratically, causing damage to a number of parked vehicles, including on Mays St.

A young policeman who jumped into the car in an attempt to arrest the man and to immobilise the vehicle was in it when it side-swiped White's car parked outside his home of 10 years. It then came to rest after thumping into the vehicle a few doors down.

White said he was impressed with how police handled such a volatile situation.

Tasered the man was justified in the circumstances, he believed. "But at the same time, I felt pretty sorry for the guy... he must have a pretty mixed-up life."

• A man, aged 23, appeared in court this week facing multiple charges relating to robbery, unlawfully taking a motor vehicle, wilful damage and resisting police.

Landfill leaching should continue – consultants

Some leachate discharges into Ngataranga Bay from Devonport's closed landfill are higher than national guidelines allow but should be allowed to continue, according to a report by environmental consultants Beca.

The 15ha unlined landfill operated in Devonport from 1890 to 1992, after which consents to discharge leachate via the ground were obtained. These expire on 31 December, so Auckland Council has lodged a resource consent to continue discharging the waste.

Most of the leachate from the closed dump is collected in a series of drains and sumps around the edge of the site. The waste is then pumped out through the sewerage system and treated as trade waste.

"However, a limited amount of leachate may also discharge to stormwater (via infiltration

into the stormwater system) and/or groundwater," says the Beca report prepared for council.

"Given the proximity of the site to Ngataranga Bay, stormwater and groundwater subsequently discharges into the coastal marine area," the report says.

Monitoring of the site shows "some exceedances" of national guidelines for nitrogen and zinc levels in freshwater water quality needed for the protection of 80 per cent of aquatic species, it says.

While the landfill will continue to generate leachate "it is anticipated to weaken as the materials in the closed landfill continue to age," Beca says.

Overall, the levels of zinc and nitrogen contaminants produced by the site have decreased

over the last six to seven years.

Site visits to the wetland near the old tip site show no evidence of leachate discharge.

"The mangrove stands within the proximity of the closed landfill were observed to be healthy," the report says.

Beca recommends continued diversion of the leachate into the collection system and continued monitoring of the site to check groundwater quality. New discharge consents should be granted as the effects "are less than minor".

Auckland Council is also improving drainage on various parts of Ngataranga Park to lessen the impact of stormwater run-off, Beca said.

The council's landfill team has consulted with iwi groups but no meetings with local environment groups or the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board are mentioned in Beca's report.

Planned pathway is stalled on the drawing board

A proposed \$1.3 million pathway linking Francis St and Esmonde Rd is still in the planning stage.

In August last year, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board gave \$1.3 million towards the project, which has been discussed for years.

A 'greenway' already runs from the south end of Francis St through Bayswater, the O'Neill's Point cemetery and Plymouth Reserve. The Francis-Esmonde link would connect the peninsula route to the Northern Pathway at Akoranga. The Patuone Walkway, linking Esmonde Rd to Takapuna central through the upper Shoal Bay area, is also

nearing completion.

The Francis St extension is still on the Greenways plan, which maps walking and cycling avenues across Auckland, but discussion at a workshop of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board showed it is unlikely to proceed in the near future.

Auckland Council parks and places specialist John McKellar said the path was still on the Greenways to-do list, but was told by board member Trish Deans that the project would face "a battle" for resource consent.

"I doubt you would get the 13 iwi agreeing with it," she said.

After the meeting, board chair Ruth Jackson said the Patuone walkway could have had just a basic patch-up, with the funds saved spent on the Francis-Esmonde route.

"At the moment we have the age-old budget shortfall – we don't have enough to do the Francis-Esmonde one."

Developers building apartments on the old church site on Esmonde Rd are happy to include a path through their land, Jackson said, but there was no timeframe for the path to go in.

McKellar said the Greenways stretch from Bayswater Park to Plymouth Reserve is also set for improvement.

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Battered but happy, Adam notches 100 games for Shore

A North Shore lineout steal on the last play to secure a 17-12 win over Massey in the North Harbour rugby championship semi-final ensured lock and captain Adam Batt could mark his 100th game for the green and whites with a crucial victory.

Batt was typically uncompromising throughout the match, making numerous hit-ups and crunching tackles.

After the game at Shore's Vauxhall Rd home ground, Batt was exhausted but savouring the win and his personal milestone.

"It means a lot," he said. "I've played here since I was five years old."

Batt debuted for Shore premiers in 2013, in his first year out of school, and apart from a stint overseas has been a fixture ever since.

He won North Harbour titles with the team in 2014 and 2021.

However, at 27, he's unsure how many games he has left. "The body is getting pretty broken."

"But a few of the boys are coming back next year for the club's 150th.

"And it would be hard not to be involved in that – I love my childhood club."

A third North Harbour premiership would top off Batt's year, but it will be a hard ask against a rampant Takapuna side, which has been unbeaten all year and thrashed Northcote 55-5 in the other semifinal.

In contrast, Shore's win against Massey was extremely tight, with the visitors almost snatching a win in the dying minutes, when a driving maul crossed the Shore line but was ruled held up.

Shore had the best of the first half and led 10-0 deep into the first 40, but Massey scored just before half-time to reduce the deficit to 10-5.

Midway through the second spell, Shore halfback Brad McNaughten, who had one of his best games for the premiers, scored his second try, which was converted by Oscar Koller – usually a midfielder, but who made a



Made it... Sione Teu (left) and Adam Batt celebrate North Shore's semi-final win over Massey

great fist of first-five – to put Shore ahead 17-5.

But Shore couldn't close out the match, and after Massey scored a converted try in reply, the game was anyone's. Shore didn't help its cause by conceding a series of ruck penalties which gave Massey territory.

In the end, it was the staunch Shore defence that won it the match, shutting down numerous Massey attacks and preventing the ball getting to dangerous wing Tevita Li, a former North Harbour and Highlanders player. Shore loose

Sione Teu must have made a dozen tackles around the fringes in the last 20 minutes.

Shore, the defending champions, will need a similar defensive effort and a little more punch on attack if it is to have any chance against Takapuna in the final.

- Shore has two teams in finals at Albany this weekend. Its premier reserves side, down 21-20 for much of the second half of its semi-final against Takapuna, scored a late try and conversion to win 27-21.

Make your voice heard

Make a submission on Labour's Three Waters today. Visit www.parliament.nz and search for **Water Services Entities Bill**.

National  **Simon Watts**
MP for North Shore

Funded by the Parliamentary Service. Authorised by Simon Watts, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.





By Rob Drent

The lack of public engagement on a renewal of Auckland Council's rights to discharge leachate into Ngataringa Bay from the old Devonport tip is concerning. Auckland Council's closed landfill team isn't exactly proactive in providing information – the Flagstaff only learned through an Official Information Act request about the rights to discharge lapsing in late December.

We've kept tabs on the issue and on page 14 of this paper publish the findings of a report which recommends a resource consent be granted to discharge.

Meetings have been held with Maori groups but none with the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board or local environmental groups such as Restoring Takarunga Hauraki. This is most surprising, given the huge fight put up by Devonport residents in the early 1970s to reverse a decision allowing a developer to fill in Ngataringa Bay and sell off the real estate.

Council seems to have failed to consider history in this lack of consultation with people who were the real kaitiaki of the bay.

You also have to wonder, with the containment technology that must be available today, why any leachate needs to be discharged at all.

Moreover, if leachate can get out of the tip site, groundwater can and does get in. I remain concerned about what will happen to the tip and its contents as sea water levels rise or there is a king-tide or tsunami event which engulfs and erodes the closed landfill, potentially sucking 100 years of rubbish and contaminants into the ocean.

I'm glad the idea to develop a sports-hub at Narrow Neck is being pursued.

Hopefully, with top basketball player Tom Abercrombie leading it, with support from Rotary and Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member Toni van Tonder, it will become a

reality in some form.

The idea itself is nothing new. Around 20 years ago, then Devonport Gym owner Rod Enoka took a similar concept to the Devonport Community Board. He wanted to move his gym to the Devonport Squash Club, improve the tennis and basketball courts and even mooted the possible construction of a swimming pool complex, all linked together to create a full community sports facility. The board said thanks very much for the presentation, but it went no further.

As always with projects of this type, funding and realistic goals will be the key.

The success of the pump track alongside is an excellent example of what can be achieved when all the elements align.

Any grander plans to move out into Woodall Park may prove problematic however. It is little used except for a volleyball court, and even dog walkers prefer the nearby Narrow Neck Beach. The park is boggy for much of the year and would require extensive drainage to make it fit for recreation or buildings.

The park is also close to neighbours where noise could become an issue.

Walking around Devonport, 'Jabbed' signs are still in some retailers' windows. It was a simple campaign last year to let shoppers know all staff serving on the premises had been double vaccinated. Thanks to everyone who supported the campaign – you and Devonport have won national recognition. As reported on page 2, Jabbed was judged best idea/innovation in the New Zealand Community Newspaper Awards.

Having written this column or an editorial each issue for the best part of 25 years, I often suspected it had fewer readers than the rest of the paper. Wrong, it seems. A small item in the last issue about the death of our 20-year-old cat Scotty struck a chord. Around a dozen people have approached me in the street offering condolences. I also received cards and emails. Thank you to everyone who took the time to get in touch.



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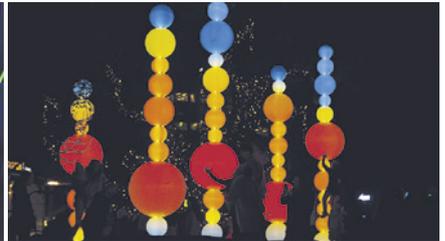
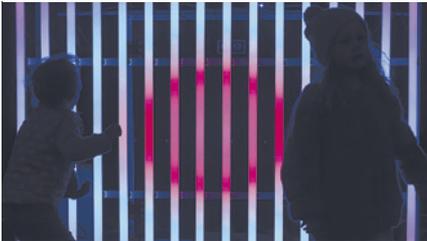
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Top public architect floats ideas for local density

Ken Davis is the latest principal architect for state-housing provider Kāinga Ora. He talks to Helen Vause about social housing – and the way heritage and higher density could co-exist in Devonport.



Local landmark... architect Ken Davis outside the Navy Museum he designed

Architect Ken Davis has decades of experience in the development of private and public buildings and in overseeing the creation of higher density, multi-level housing.

As the new principal architect for Kāinga Ora, his focus may now be on social housing projects, but the Devonport resident has a clear message on the future he can see for his local patch.

“Devonport needs intensification. And it can be done well with respect to heritage, to the past and to retaining the intimacy, texture and qualities of the place,” he says.

Older heritage buildings and new buildings are not incompatible, and the best cities in the world do mix them seamlessly, with mutual respect and responsive design, Davis says. “We can do it in Devonport, and we have done it before, where we have buildings of different periods sitting comfortably alongside each other. We should not be afraid of intensification.”

It’s a question of how it’s done in terms of scale, design and detail, he says.

There is plentiful under-developed land in the centre of Devonport, says Davis, and the opportunity to accommodate several thousand people to live and work in the town centre.

“The more people who live, work and recreate in the Devonport town centre, the better. If they live locally they will spend locally which supports more commerce, including retail and hospitality.

“This increased activity helps revitalise the town centre and, if they don’t need cars to get about, greater intensification enhances sustainability,” he says.

Ideally, intensification in the village centre would bring a mix of age groups from youth to down-sizing retirees.

The new development he envisages would bring accommodation, maybe more office space and other amenities with appeal across the generations.

“There is a latent demand amongst local people who want to down-size from their large houses but don’t want to leave Devonport. A small, well-designed lock-up-and-leave apartment in the town centre would be ideal for those people as well as small, affordable housing for those starting out.”

And maybe the neighbourhood could hang onto more of its young people if a satellite university campus was included in a new iteration of the town centre too.

“A good precinct plan for Devonport town centre could make that revitalisation

happen. And a precinct plan that is created by the people of Devonport. Outcome-driven, not rules-driven as it currently is.”

Davis came to Devonport to live in 2005 with his wife and daughter, so has been here long enough to be very attached to the place and sometimes active in the community.

His brief is obviously national with Kāinga Ora housing, but he has for some years shared an office with a locally based practice and worked on large-scale projects both nationally and on this peninsula.

In 2017, he worked on concept plans for intergenerational housing and a retirement village in Devonport with 542 low-rise apartments and townhouses of varying sizes.

He also developed a proposal for the redevelopment of Belmont centre with a mix of commercial, residential use and open spaces.

In 2018, he was involved in the Glow open-street events in Devonport intended to promote the rethinking of public space, repurposing carparks and attracting attention to issues. He initiated and organised the closure of part of Clarence St for a successful street party.

He was in the group that successfully challenged the Ryman development plans

in Ngataringa Road and helped to achieve improvements in both the design and the build of the sprawling development.

His curriculum vitae reflects over 30 years as a practising architect.

It lists many public buildings from railway stations to galleries and museums, including the Navy Museum in Torpedo Bay.

In his early career he worked in the Wellington office of the famed Ian Athfield, and was the project architect in the design and construction of the Wellington Public Library and Civic Centre.

He was part of the team that drove the much-admired urban development of Wellington’s waterfront. And he had a hand in a number of large-scale apartment developments, including the conversion of former office spaces. Since 1989, he’s been a visiting teacher and examiner in his field.

His interest in social housing was evident from early days and he drew attention with an influential undergraduate thesis on Gordon Wilson, who was the first principal architect in government-built housing from 1936 to 1959.

As he effectively steps into Wilson’s shoes, Davis has long been considered one of the country’s leading experts on the history of New Zealand’s mid-20th century state housing projects.

Kāinga Ora has about 70,000 dwellings of varying ages, and has been redeveloping many of its sites.

Davis says his role as principal architect is to improve the design quality of the country’s social housing in terms of how it works and looks. “One of the biggest challenges for Kāinga Ora is to not only design communities of buildings that are fit for purpose but that comfortably fit into existing environments and communities.”

This is no easy task, he says, adding that making it work requires commitment from all involved at a time when some communities are opposing intensification through

the redevelopments of the social housing agency in their neighbourhoods.

“It needs to be done carefully, respectfully and seamlessly in a manner that prevents the occupants from being stigmatised and alienated from their society and immediate communities, any more than they possibly already are.”

We have a housing crisis, says Davis, that has resulted in unprecedented levels of poverty.

“Devonport town centre could become an exemplar of sensitive and respectful urban intensification that reinforces the unique identity of the place and becomes a greater magnet for visitors.”

Kāinga Ora, he says, has a role to provide warm and dry safe homes for those in need as an important step in redressing inequalities and reducing the wider costs to society now and in the future.

Achieving this requires a commitment from all, he says.

Talking about communities and the ways we are accustomed to living, Davis says the approach has been about individual residences and boundaries separating homes. Concepts of co-operatively living in higher density with shared spaces are not yet as commonplace as they are in other countries.

“What would happen if we took all the fences down around here,” he muses.

Davis – who in his down time loves playing the trumpet and tennis – says Devonport people could be involved in making plans for intensification of the town centre.

“We decide what we want and what the town centre should look like, what it should be like and feel like and then we design planning and development policies to reflect and support these outcomes.

“[For example] we might say we want Clarence St to be sheltered and sunny so we make sure buildings to the north side of the street can’t overshadow all of the street in winter, when people most want to sit in the warm sun having a coffee. Or we decide what mix of heritage and new buildings we want. And there is plenty of undeveloped land in the town centre that can provide the additional space needed for new apartments, shops, cafes and work places.”

The community, he says could agree on the right scale of development in the town centre – four to five levels or about the same height as the Vic and the Esplanade Hotel but varied to respond to context such as proximity to older buildings, treescapes, views of the maunga and other desired environmental outcomes including sun and shelter.

“It’s achievable”, says Davis, citing parts of Wellington City and Auckland’s Wynyard Quarter and the Hobsonville Point developments as good examples of urban intensification.

Wellington, he points out, is a classic example of a city, once “cold and lifeless”, that was redeveloped through good design into “one of the most vital boutique cities in the world”, in just 10 years.

“Devonport town centre could become an exemplar of sensitive and respectful urban intensification that reinforces the unique identity of the place and becomes a greater magnet for visitors. Good design and respect for old and new is central to great outcomes.”



Devonport 10 Owens Road

3 1 1 1

Set Sale Date (unless sold prior) 1.30pm, Thu 4 Aug 2022
 28 Northcroft Street, Takapuna, Auckland
Phone for viewing times
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Rival board tickets set up generational showdown

Places on the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board will be hotly contested in this year's local-body elections, with two tickets featuring well-known faces already in the running.

Aidan Bennett, the top-polling candidate in 2019, is not standing again, but Toni van Tonder, his sole team-mate on the six-member board this term, has quietly put together a five-person team using the A Fresh Approach banner the duo ran under three years ago.

The highest-profile new member is Terence Harpur, chief executive of the Takapuna Beach Business Association.

Harpur says he intends keeping his day job if elected, meaning he may face conflict-of-interest stand-downs during decision-making. "I would of course not be voting on direct funding towards the business association," he told the Flagstaff.

Van Tonder, as the only person on the ticket with local-body experience, wants to chair the next board. She says her team members share a forward-looking approach, with diverse interests and backgrounds. She and Harpur want the board to focus on governance and collaboration, not politicking.

They will be up against current chair Ruth Jackson and her Heart of the Shore line-up. Jackson's deputy, long-time local body representative Jan O'Connor, and fellow board member Trish Deans, are confirmed candidates. Jackson told the Observer "We'll be making other announcements in due course."

Candidate nominations close on 12 August for elections on 8 October.

A Fresh Approach offers a strong geographical spread of younger candidates, setting up a Millennials v Boomers contest.

From the north of the board area comes Mel Powell, chair of the Sunnynook Community Association, and Peter Allen, a Milford resident known for staging Christmas at the Lake. From the Devonport peninsula end, Harpur lives in Hauraki; Zane Catherall, a community activist and tikanga adviser to the Restoring Takarunga Hauraki environmental group, is from Bayswater; and van Tonder, a former Devonport Business Association manager, lives in Narrow Neck.

Both O'Connor (Hauraki) and Deans



Board hopefuls... A Fresh Approach candidates (from left) Toni van Tonder, Terence Harpur, Zane Catherall, Peter Allen and Mel Powell

(Devonport) live in the southern half of the board area, which historically has had the highest representation. Jackson lives out of area these days, but has strong links to Devonport and is regularly seen across the board's main centres.

The sixth sitting board member, George Wood, from Forrest Hill, is seeking election to Auckland Council, on which he served between 2010 and 2016. He is yet to confirm whether he will also stand for the board, but told the Flagstaff that if decisions on the fate of ageing Takapuna community buildings, including the library, did not come before it pre-election, this would influence his plans.

"The idea of a major decision [looming] should be something that voters should be able to vote on... It's democracy in action," he says.

Along with Bennett and van Tonder, Wood has been more open than Heart of the Shore members to selling the assets to develop a new combined library and community hub in the redeveloping Waiwhariki Anzac Town Square.

The Heart of the Shore trio say residents will likely end up with combined facilities

with less space. They were elected on a platform to safeguard heritage and against the partial private development of the central Takapuna car park.

Bennett has lent his support to van Tonder's line-up. He said that after health challenges, he now wanted to put more time into his business. He had enjoyed his term and learned a great deal.

"I was only ever going to do two terms anyway, but the last two years have changed things dramatically for me."

In a parting shot in a magazine he owns, Bennett criticised Heart of the Shore for "old thinking".

Bennett chaired the board for the first 18 months of the current term, before handing over to Jackson for the second half, in a deal they agreed when he topped the poll, but she had more team members elected.

Although Wood voted independently from both blocs, the deal led to a number of 3-3 splits on some big issues, with chairs using their casting vote to carry the day.

All board members have found this testing, so both groups will hope voters deliver them a clear majority.

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NEW LISTING



View from master bedroom

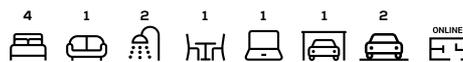
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Tender

4:00pm 28 Jul 2022 at 39
Victoria Road, Devonport (Branch Office) (unless sold prior)

Viewing

Sat/Sun 1:00 - 1:45pm



Sue Harrison
021 909 549
s.harrison@barfoot.co.nz



Toni Gregory
021 044 3663
t.gregory@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/834401



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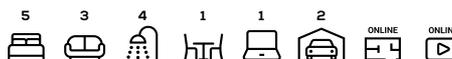
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Devonport 92A Ngataringa Road

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Auction

12:00pm 3 Aug 2022 at 39
Victoria Road, Devonport (Branch Office) (unless sold prior)

Viewing

Sat/Sun 12:00-12:30pm
Twilight Wed 20th 5:30-6:30pm



Trish Fitzgerald
021 952 452
t.fitzgerald@barfoot.co.nz



Tracey Lawrence
021 1720 681
t.lawrence@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/834723

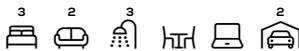
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For Sale

By Negotiation

Viewing

Sunday 2:00-2:30pm

Trish Fitzgerald

021 952 452

t.fitzgerald@barfoot.co.nz

Tracey Lawrence

021 1720 681

t.lawrence@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/831025

Devonport
50a Ngataringa Road

NOW UNDER OFFER - BACK UP OFFERS ARE WELCOME.



For Sale

By Negotiation

Viewing

Sun 1:00-1:30pm

Trish Fitzgerald

021 952 452

t.fitzgerald@barfoot.co.nz

Tracey Lawrence

021 1720 681

t.lawrence@barfoot.co.nz

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For Sale

\$959,000

Viewing

Sat/Sun 11:00-11:30am

Tracey Lawrence

021 1720 681

t.lawrence@barfoot.co.nz

Trish Fitzgerald

021 952 452

t.fitzgerald@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/834605



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This is a wonderful starter, rental or downsize option with a chance to add your own touch on this brick and tile apartment. One of 20, each one has a designated off street car park, communal laundry facility, and a professional body corp which has recently refurbished the gardens and external common corridors and balustrades ensuring the complex is kept clean, tidy and fresh. Second level for privacy and north facing for great sun.



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By Negotiation

Viewing

By Appointment

Darshan Jogia

021 107 1269

d.jogia@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/833501



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With substantially lowered price expectations, you can ignore previous price indications and talk to us today! This is a wonderful home and it may have just slipped into your price bracket!
Talk to us about the new price bracket this gorgeous home finds itself in. Call us now!



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Viewing
Saturday 12:00-12:45pm
Lance Richardson
021 796 660
l.richardson@barfoot.co.nz
Suzu Wang
022 199 7808
s.wang2@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/831536

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Suzu Wang
022 199 7808
s.wang2@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/834070

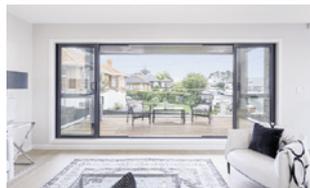


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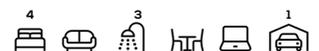


Auction
12:00pm 27 Jul 2022 at 39 Victoria Road, Devonport (Branch Office) (unless sold prior)
Viewing
Phone For Viewing Times
Lance Richardson
021 796 660
l.richardson@barfoot.co.nz
Suzu Wang
022 199 7808
barfoot.co.nz/813270

Belmont
Lot 15/16 Williamson Avenue

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A change of circumstances has dictated our vendor must sell! Selling out of the four bedroom apartments very early in the development created a lot of disappointed buyers. Fantastic views, lift, garage, EV charge point, luxury kitchen and bathroom, these lovely townhouses set the standard. Our vendor needs action, contact us today.



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Viewing
Phone For Viewing Times
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Lance Richardson
021 796 660
l.richardson@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/829059

Letters

Village sell-off shows ethical void

Your front-page story about council's intention to sell-off pensioner villages (Flagstaff, 1 July) is a clear example of the ethical void our current council operates under.

Obviously, our representatives cannot grasp the bad faith involved by first inviting retirees to secure their future by buying a safe, secure home, then deciding to sell the land out from under them. It's truly appalling.

It's also worth mentioning that, while council implies the 'Own Your Own Home' scheme was generously priced, a right to occupy still cost between \$400,000 and \$500,000. For most buyers, because they had to be of limited means to qualify, this would have taken every cent they could raise.

We're all familiar with a council that will spend on frivolities while neglecting basic upkeep, a council that appears to have no regard for local people's concerns and will ignore local-board representation of those concerns. But are we prepared to re-elect people who will break faith with vulnerable elderly who trusted them, and who invested all they had? I hope not.

Lyndsay Brock

Community policing for Devonport to be based in Browns Bay

A rejig of community policing on the North Shore will see the Browns Bay station become the base for community constables serving Devonport and Takapuna.

The move – at a time of heightened concern about crime – has upset community leaders who say people feel safer knowing there is an officer on the streets to keep an eye on things.

It also goes against recent calls from the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board chair, Ruth Jackson, for more “boots on the ground”.

But police say the restructure will actually deliver 20 per cent more staff resources into community policing.

Instead of one sergeant overseeing nine constables across North Shore and Kaipatiki, two sergeants will each have five constables under them.

A memo and a map from the Waitemata

East police leadership shows the North Shore area stretches from Devonport to Long Bay and across to Greenhithe, partly encircling the Kaipatiki area, which will have a police-team base in Glenfield.

The North Shore community team will be based in Browns Bay, instead of the more central North Shore station off Constellation Dr.

It is understood that some sort of mobile service will be set up, enabling officers to set up a temporary base on suburb visits.

A more teams-based approach to covering the two areas is also in the offing.

The June memo said teams were being strengthened and roles better defined “to ensure they are strongly focussed on preventing and resolving emerging and embedded crime”. This would also help maintain a consistent approach if people were moved into other roles.

Signs up for new Hauraki low-speed zone

The Hauraki School area 30km/h speed zone will take effect from 28 July.

Signs are already up, but will remain covered until the new limit is applied.

Some in the community had called on Auckland Transport to include more streets in the reduction from 50km/h, especially along the full length of Jutland Rd and on

Francis St.

Roads covered by the reduced speed limit are the southwestern section of Jutland Rd (from Francis St) only, along with Charles, Sydney, Walter and Herbert Sts, Pine Ridge Tce, Waitemata Rd and Marsden Tce.

Belmont and Devonport schools will be included in the programme later.

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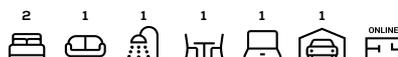
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Devonport 19/53 Vauxhall Road

THIS IS JUST THE PERFECT STARTER

What a charming weatherboard bungalow, elevated for sun, privacy and even a peep of the sea. Two double bedrooms, an office/nursery, lockup garage and workshop set in a mews like setting. This property has everything you need to step up onto the property ladder and say goodbye to your landlord! With new carpets, polished floors, East facing deck off the living room, most of the hard work has been done.



Auction

10am 14 July 2022, The Promenade, Takapuna (unless sold prior)

Viewing

Sunday 11.00-11.30am



Cathy Fiebig
021 383 149
c.fiebig@barfoot.co.nz

barfoot.co.nz/834665

Congratulations on a magical hikoi – but lose the speeches next time

The hikoi up Takarunga/Mt Victoria on Saturday evening was a truly magical event.

There would have been 2000 people, many of them children carrying their home-made lanterns, who walked from Windsor Reserve, up the closed Victoria Rd and up the maunga on a beautiful calm, clear night.

A karakia at the top was followed by a song then a peaceful glide back down again.

The heritage buildings were lit up to amazing effect and the people claimed the street.

A memorable way to celebrate Matariki

and one that must become an annual, not-to-be-missed event.

Congratulations to the organisers, especially Katherine Downs of the Devonport Business Association for having the idea and pulling it off so successfully.

Only one change should be made: Leave out the politicians' speeches and replace them with more songs.

We couldn't hear them anyway and didn't need to. This is an event for the people.

Margot McRae

Make Belmont shore a park

It might be timely for a partnership between Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, the Auckland Council and many other generous Auckland benefactors and companies to work together to establish the Oneoneroa Point/ Belmont Regional Park based on the very successful Cornwall Park Model.

This coastal land at Belmont is currently owned by Ngāti Whātua and is a forgotten, iconic, scenic gem on the city's back doorstep.

This combination of coastal land and marine areas is home to many internationally significant wildlife species, including godwits, wrybills and fairy terns. The chenier-plain shell banks are an internationally significant geological feature.

With judicious planting of native trees on the coastal escarpment by local school children, iwi, company employees and other volunteers, this park in time could become a haven for many endangered species.

Bruce Tubb

Smug cycling zealots aim at further driver frustration

Cycle Auckland members have already worked with their fellow zealots in Auckland Transport (AT) before the rest of us get 'consulted' on whether we want Awful A or Awful B.

Both include removing the right-turning vehicle lane into Calliope Rd.

The cycle zealots think the back-up of cars waiting for right-turning vehicles to clear would be at "tolerable levels".

Which really means that AT really doesn't give a damn about more frustration for drivers (actively seeks it, in fact).

We know the queue waiting behind a right turn at Hastings Parade can quickly reach back to the roundabout. That isn't tolerable.

AT and Cycle Auckland have just planned

one more painful experience to drive the less-enlightened towards their guiding light. Smug b*****s!

Never mind 'fellow citizens', or that driver frustration is as dangerous as alcohol in leading to poor driving decisions.

I cycle through that intersection a lot, and the danger for a cyclist is a car overtaking on the bend and coming in too close to the left.

Okay, paint a green lane on the left, through the bend. That's enough to get drivers to check before encroaching. But leave that right-turn lane.

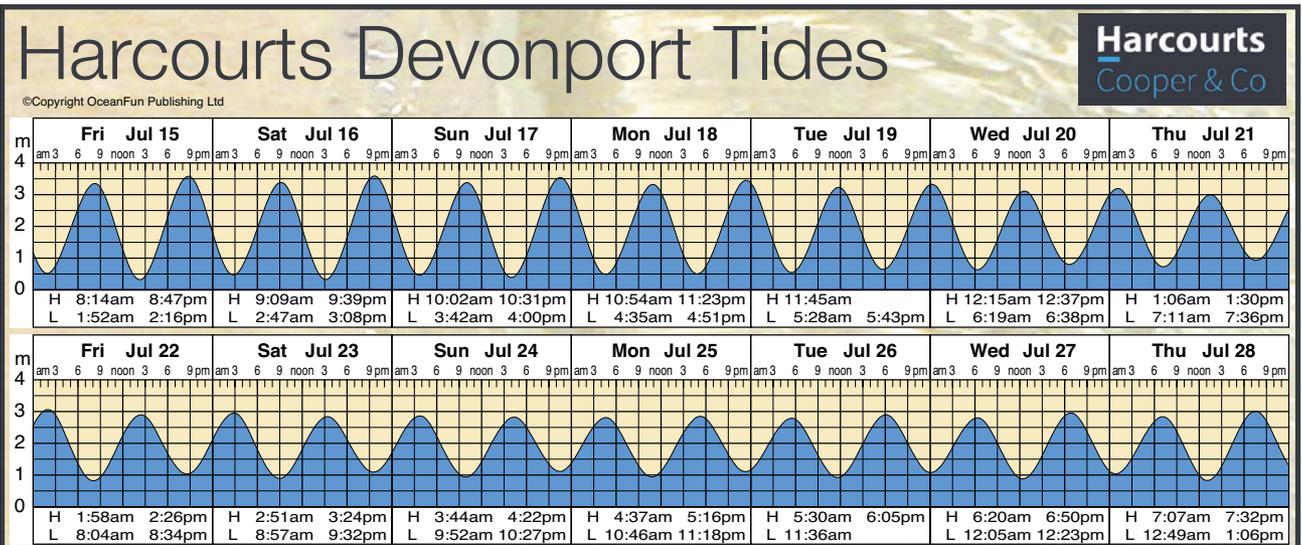
Disclosure: I already dislike Cycle Auckland, despise AT, and through them, am learning to hate living in Auckland.

Rob Thexton

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters on local issues that are less than 300 words. Noms-de-plume or unnamed submissions will not be printed.

Email your submissions to news@devonportflagstaff.co.nz or post to Devonport Flagstaff, PO Box 32 275, Devonport



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Heritage fight continues over homes hit-list

Residential areas near historic Fort Takapuna and at Stanley Point are on the list of homes Devonport-Takapuna Local Board wants restored to the suburb's special character area (SCA).

Council assessments removed a number of more modern or modified homes from protection, including some near the nationally significant military site.

"The effect of this pepper-pot approach will undermine the quality of amenity of the special character heritage area and impact negatively," the board said. "This would result in an inconsistent set of building and designs."

Locations it wants revisited include:

Grove Rd: Removal from the SCA of 10 homes from 2 to 20 Grove Rd is questioned. Given they are on an elevated side of the narrow street, removal could result in significant dominance by any rebuilds. Restored villas at number 16 and 20 were of a high standard warranting continuing protection.

Vauxhall Rd: Removal of six homes from 103-115 Vauxhall Rd would impact the area's heritage. A restored bungalow at 111 and a restored villa at 115 were important to the streetscape.

A villa recently relocated from Onehunga fitted with the tradition of the street's 1890s homes relocated earlier from Thames. Three rezoned seaward-side homes above Fort Cautley were positioned among heritage homes and would be outliers among the majority of homes on this strip that would remain as two-storey single dwellings.

Morrison Ave and Wairoa Rd: Removing five homes would impact the heritage value of Morrison Ave. Of these properties, number 7 was a bungalow which added to this value. A home at 60 Wairoa Rd was the only one on that road to be taken out of the SCA.

North Ave: Removing elevated homes overlooking Woodall Park at 23 and 27



Worthy of protection?... a Victorian villa transported from Onehunga in 2017 and relocated to 113 Vauxhall Rd

North Ave was an example of pepper-potting, with needless intensification for limited dwelling gains in an otherwise protected street.

Turnbull Rd and 177-183 Vauxhall Rd: Changes were said to be confusing, with one side of Turnbull Rd in the SCA, yet opposite, with three high-quality villas at 4, 8, 10, the status had been removed.

On the corner area, 2-4 Turnbull Rd and 177-183 Vauxhall Rd were removed, however, 177, 181 and 183 had been identified as being overlaid with a regionally significant volcanic viewshaft and 177 and 181 Vauxhall Rd had historic considerations.

The viewshaft rating applies also at 82 and 84 Wairoa Rd and 22 North Ave, with the submission saying removing such homes from the SCA was disjointed, given the var-

ying qualifying matters that applied within the various sites.

Stanley Pt Rd: Removing eight homes at 47-53, 57, 59, 61A and 65 Stanley Pt Rd would undermine the coherence of the SCA, depleting the predominant heritage values for which Stanley Point was known. (Number 55 retained its SCA, and had a coastal-erosion qualifying matter.)

A home opposite the downgraded area, at number 74, had outstanding social and historic value, having been built by Cyril Bassett, the only New Zealand recipient of the Victoria Cross at Gallipoli in World War I.

As well as causing pepper-potting, the assessments were believed to have included errors, the board said, with 61A and 65 being intact transitional villas of high heritage quality.



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Board makes case for further heritage safeguards

Devonport heritage classifications need revisiting to protect more homes and the suburb's historic character, says the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

It backs Devonport Heritage's call to recognise the Victoria Rd business area as a Historic Heritage Area and it has also called on Auckland Council to reconsider pockets of housing excluded from the Special Character Area (SCA) proposed over much of the suburb.

If more intensified development occurs in the pockets – including near Fort Takapuna, on Vauxhall Rd and at Stanley Point – the overall historic character of the suburb would be compromised by pepper-potting, the board maintains.

Board feedback on changes to the Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP) was put to Auckland Council's Planning Committee at the end of June.

Jackson and member Trish Deans told councillors the rush for the council to revise the AUP in light of national housing directives risked creating damage that could not be undone.

Public feedback showed 74 per cent local support for SCAs, they noted.

Along with other boards across the city, Devonport-Takapuna backs the council's proposed infrastructure "overlay" in the AUP, to limit

development if areas do not have the capacity to deal with this.

Watercare's recent revelation that it had concerns about the peninsula's pipes and Lake Rd congestion worsening were among supporting reasons the board raised.

When it came to heritage, boards and councillors were more split in their views.

Some maintain more protection is needed, while others say too much valuable land in the inner suburbs is tied up in single-house sections at a time when other suburbs are being rapidly developed, often without adequate services, such as regular public transport.

Councillors rejected a motion to lower council assessment standards for SCAs across the city by a vote of 11-10. This would have given protection to Northcote Point and parts of Birkenhead, along with some older city areas that do not rate as highly as Devonport.

SCAs are exempt from the new city-wide medium residential density standard which allows, as of right, three-storey, three-house per site development.

Instead, only a single, two-storey single home per section standard is proposed.

After the meeting, local-board member George Wood questioned why North Shore

councillors Chris Darby and Richard Hills had not worked together on their SCA vote, saying this could have reversed the result.

Darby voted in favour of lowering the qualifying score to 4, but Hills abstained.

Had Hills voted in favour, the vote would have been tied, putting Darby in a position, says Wood, where he could have used his casting vote. Asked by the Flagstaff why he abstained, Hills said council staff had advised that lowering the standard might make it harder for the council to make the case for retaining heritage SCAs. The AUP must be notified in August when it will be open to public submissions, which will be considered by an independent hearings panel before changes take effect next year. If the council disagrees with the panel's recommendations on plan changes, Environment Minister David Parker will get the final say.

Jackson told the Flagstaff she hoped the board's submissions would be considered this month, before the AUP was notified.

A judicial review against the government could be pursued, she suggested.

Deans said the board would not give up on making the local case. It may put its case to the hearings panel, she said.

THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

WELCOME HOME, TE MANA

After 1,200 days away, Anzac-class frigate HMNZS Te Mana sailed back into Auckland on Friday 8 July, her crew of 170 looking forward to being reunited with whānau and friends.

The ship departed New Zealand more than three years ago to undergo an extensive frigate systems upgrade in Esquimalt, Canada.

Both Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) frigates, HMNZS Te Mana and HMNZS Te Kaha, have now had new surveillance, combat and self defence systems installed which has made them comparable to our allies, and will provide effective combat platforms well into the 2030s.

Te Mana's voyage home include a sail under the famous Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco, and port calls in San Diego and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Devonport residents would have likely heard part of the ship's ceremonial homecoming, which involved gun salutes from both the ship and the shore. More than 700



friends and family were at the Devonport Naval Base to welcome the ship home in style with live music by the ship's band, banners, haka and emotional reunions.

Te Mana is home as the Navy's

sustainment vessel, HMNZS Aotearoa, is currently in Hawaii participating in the US-lead Rim of the Pacific exercise. Aotearoa will continue on a nearly five-month deployment of South East Asia, returning home before Christmas.

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

**Congratulations? Thanks?
Problems? Complaints?**

DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE TEL 445 5002



NAVY
TĒ TAUA MOANA O AOTEAROA

Takapuna Grammar

SCHOOL NEWS



JULY 15, 2022

Haka Challenge Brings Out the School Pride



BOT Chair Andrew Baker awarding the new Te Hapara Cup to Kaha House Leaders Nikaiah Noble & Tataiarangi Baker.

The annual TGS Haka Challenge was held on Wednesday 6th July and is one of the most anticipated events in the TGS school calendar. This year, Andrew Baker, Presiding Member of the Takapuna Grammar School Board, kindly donated the *Te Hapara Cup*, to recognise the winning House in the competition.

A big thank you to our judges, Principal

Mary Nixon, Stacey Morrison and Andrew Baker, who were treated to five rousing renditions of the Takapuna Grammar School haka *Te Karanga Pakanga*. The judges commented on the mana and energy that was shown by all students during the performances. The 2022 Placings were as follows; 1st – Kaha; 2nd – Ihi; 3rd – Wehi.

Congratulations to the winning house – Kaha. The challenge event was completed with a spine-tingling full school haka from all five houses which blew the staff away watching. If there is ever a day when TGS pride is on full show, it's at Haka Challenge Day, Ka Pai everyone involved!

Tom Talbot wins 2nd place at Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Nationals

Congratulations to Year 11 Tom Talbot for winning second place for his vocal composition *Come Sweet Death* at SGCNZ Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Nationals last weekend.

His piece featured a lead vocal line of one of Shakespeare's poems from his play *Twelfth Night* where the foolish clown Feste is entertaining the court with a song about death and funerals. The vocal line was accompanied by piano, clarinet, cello and drums to create the sullen, yet melodic mood necessary to support the deathly theme of the poem. Remember the name as you'll no doubt here more about Tom Talbot in the coming years!

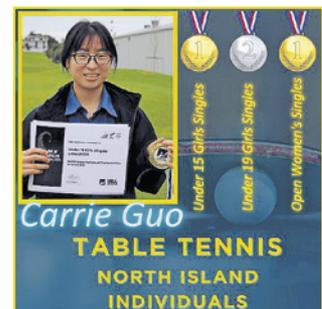


Carrie Guo brings home 3 medals from NI Table Tennis Champs

Carrie Guo competed in the 2022 North Island Individuals table tennis tournament in Tauranga. Carrie came home with the following medals:

- Gold in the Under 15 Girls Singles competition
- Silver in the Under 19 Girls Singles competition
- Gold in the Open Women's Singles competition

A remarkable achievement, congratulations Carrie!



Takapuna Grammar School Open Evening

You are welcome to attend our Open Evening
Thursday 28 July in Te Poho school hall.

Two sessions will be held at 4.00pm and 5.30pm.

Each session will begin with a presentation from our Principal followed by a school tour.

We look forward to meeting you soon.



Rubbish ideas produce runway showstoppers



He wears it well... Tim Zhang on the Trash to Fashion runway

Pupils at Belmont Primary School recycled rubbish into treasure for a fashion show.

Associate principal Moira Clews said they learned many clothes-making techniques along the way, including stitching, lacing, glueing, and fitting.

Groups selected a theme for their outfit, then collected rubbish to create it.



Accessorised... Frankie Morrison channels a day at the races



Going with the flow... Juliette France shows off her recycled outfit



Tinny or can-do?... Event winners (from left) Oscar Woodhead, Lesley Hua, and Amelia Thomas

Local black belts chop through cyberspace

Facing a master karate examiner from Japan is intimidating enough, but doing it successfully via Zoom adds to the achievements of a group of Devonport students.

Rixt Brownlow and Brett Sawyer have progressed up the ranks of their exacting martial art after an hour-long, on-screen examination rounded out their years of study.

The unusual final test was forced by Covid continuing to keep a top-flight examiner from the Japan Karate Association (JKA) from travelling to New Zealand.

The duo already held black belts. Brownlow has now risen to 2nd Dan status and Sawyer to the higher 3rd Dan level.

Their sensei or teacher at the JKA Devonport affiliate branch, David Eaton, a 5th Dan, was also examined by Zoom, attaining an examiner's licence.

This allowed him to make the in-person assessment of another of his students, James Havenga, who was judged to have reached shodan, qualifying for a black belt, which initially carries 1st Dan status.

Eaton said the online examinations were testing, but karate taught resilience. "It's unusual, it's nothing like we would normally do in the past."

Brownlow, who has trained overseas as well as with Eaton for around 10 years, credits him with their progress, saying: "I can honestly say David is world-class. We are so lucky to have him in Devonport."

The black belts are keen to emphasise their group isn't just for high-achievers, but also very family-friendly.

Its membership ranges from primary school aged boys and girls up to a man in his 70s. The style of karate taught is called Shotokan and has three pillars: basic technique, sparring and patterned movements.

While a determined and talented student might obtain a black belt in as little as five years, it might take that long again to make each Dan



All blacks... Local karate exponents who have attained black belt status under the training of David Eaton (centre) include 1st Dan James Havenga (left) and 2nd Dan Rixt Brownlow

step, with 10 in all. "It's the first step [to get a black belt]."

Eaton said, "You've got some abilities under your belt, so to speak, but then the more serious training begins."

Along the way, young students gain focus and confidence. "The aim of karate, among other things, and self-defence obviously, is to develop a person's character and an indomitable spirit."

Physically it strengthened, stretched and built endurance, making it a rounded form of exercise.

Eaton began karate himself as a youngster in 1975. Like Sawyer, he has seen his own children work through the levels. He reckons it is a life-long passion. He still had plenty to learn, he said, and is looking forward to when his own sensei from Japan can visit again.

With a three-year-old grandson waiting in the wings, Eaton expects to operate the dojo at the Devonport Community House for a while yet, to pass on the passion.

He began it in 2005 and while membership dwindled to around 15 over Covid times he is looking forward to numbers picking up.

Make your voice heard

Make a submission on Labour's Three Waters today. Visit www.parliament.nz and search for Water Services Entities Bill.

National  **Simon Watts**
MP for North Shore

Funded by the Parliamentary Service. Authorised by Simon Watts, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



Roof expert practises what he preaches

You won't meet a more philosophical roofer than Willy Ikahihifo.

He works as a roof painter and roof maintenance expert on the weekdays and part-time preacher at his church on the weekends, applying the same values in both worlds.

Willy and his wife, Afina, are the founders and directors of 1st Rate Roof Care & Painting, a business the Campbells Bay couple launched over 15 years ago but recently rebranded to service the Devonport Peninsula and wider North Shore.

"Our core family values and core business values are all heavily influenced by our church's teachings of instilling confidence, hope and love," Willy says.

"For the business, this basically translates to: we do what we say – on time, to budget."

Willy, a certified painter by trade, says the business used to do all types of house maintenance, but found it increasingly difficult to find available qualified contractors. They decided to focus "on what I know best, which is roof painting and maintenance".

Some common problems Willy sees are cracked tiles and the disintegration of mortar on tiled roofs, and rust issues with metal roofs, both of which can lead to water damage, build up of mold and rotten timber.

"This is why we recommend annual roof 'WOFs' – regular checks, cleaning and roof maintenance, an investment of a couple of hundred dollars a year that can save thousands of dollars in the long run," says Willy.

1st Rate uses a paint product called Shieldcoat which is one of the best in the business.

"If our customers prefer to use a particular brand, we're happy to use well-known brands such as Dulux, Resene and Aalto," Afina says. "Otherwise we use Shieldcoat products, because they are very advanced and our rep's technical knowledge (both product and warranty) is the best there is in Auckland."

Afina spent 10 years at BNZ as a retail banking support manager before starting the business with husband Willy.

The business uses a popular tradie software package called Quotient, which enables the 1st Rate team to upload photos and keep timely communications during the whole business process, from quotes to contracts to project



Owners Willy Ikahihifo and Afina Leca with 18-year-old son Kaia (left)

"We found the painting and repairing of our home by Willy and his team recently to be first class and we were 100% satisfied with all aspects of their work. We confidently recommend them to any person requiring a quick and efficient painting job at a competitive price."

Tom and Margaret Price, Eton Avenue, Devonport.

management. It includes a discussion board to keep customers abreast of progress and any unforeseen issues that might arise.

Willy says that he tends to over-deliver on most jobs, as he finds and fixes minor issues not seen until work commences.

But major issues are also sometimes found after work commences and these are resolved with transparency and timely communication with home owners.

"We offer a 100 per cent customer satisfaction guarantee," he says.

Roof work comes with its dangers, so 1st Rate Roof Care & Painting employs "first rate" safety measures, such as scaffolding and harness systems, on every site.

"Although I preach about the resurrection of Christ and reincarnation in my sermons, safety is always first on our work sites," Willy says with a smile.

"Some other guys out there might take a punt without scaffolding, but safety is first and there are strict regulations we need to adhere to," Afina says. "There is also potential liability for homeowners as well, so we follow all regulations to protect us and our customers."

Originally from Tonga, Willy's family came to New Zealand in 1984, in Auckland he met Afina, who was born and raised in the capital, where they subsequently lived for several years.

They moved to Auckland in 2004 to join their church in Massey. The couple have four adult boys: an engineer, an engineering student, a builder, and their youngest a former Westlake Boys High School student and aspiring chef who works with Willy while he's saving up for a food truck business.



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To apply please contact Mino:
buonasera-devonport@gmail.com



Takapuna Grammar School

Reader/Writers needed for exams 2022

Our Learning Services Department at Takapuna Grammar School is in need of reader/writers for the junior and senior exams. We would love to hear from you if you have a good command of English and some hours during the school day to help our students with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia.

We are currently organising reader/writers for the 2022 year for senior Practice exams, NCEA External, and the junior exams.

THE EXAM TIMES FOR 2022 ARE:

Senior exams NCEA (Practice exams) (unpaid)
Term 3: Thursday 15 - Tuesday 27 September

Senior exams NCEA External (paid)
Term 4: Monday 7 November - Friday 2 December

Junior (Year 9 and 10) exams (unpaid)
Term 4: Thursday 17 and Friday 18 November

Please note the senior practice exams and junior exams are voluntary positions and unpaid.

If you are available for the paid senior NCEA external exams, you will be required to volunteer for at least two of the unpaid senior practice exams.

Please note, a training session will be included.

If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact; Roz Kayes r.kayes@tgs.school.nz





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Our client, A Project Management Company in Takapuna, is looking for an Office Administrator who can provide support to the management team through the provision of secretarial, administrative and related office assistance.

The ideal candidate will have had several years' experience in a similar role and will be able to work remotely from home most days but also from the office if required.

3-4 hours a day - flexible hours between 9am and 3pm. This job will likely suit someone who also needs to look after children after school hours.

Key duties include: administration, diaries, accounting/bookkeeping, office management, event management and marketing assistance.

You need a high level of written and spoken English, hold a valid driver's licence and must have a valid NZ Working VISA or the rights to work in New Zealand.

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Dental Assistant

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- Supporting patients and ensuring they are at ease throughout dental procedures.
- Sterilization Room duties.
- Reception duties (if required), answering phones, patient call-backs, taking payments etc.
- Ensuring correct sterilisation methods are always used to keep the environment and tools clean.
- Adhering to correct infection control methods, including wearing appropriate PPE.
- Assisting with patient care, equipment set-up and any other ad hoc duties as required.

Skills

- Prior experience will be an advantage, but training will be given for the right candidate.
 - Ability to take on work across a range of dental practices (Devonport & Newmarket), some at short notice.
 - Strong multi-tasking skills and be able to work well under pressure.
 - Eye for detail.
 - Team player and willing to help out when necessary.
- Location of work (subject to change)
- Devonport: Mon, Tues and Thurs
 - Newmarket: Wednesday
- Must have the right to work in New Zealand (NZ Citizen, NZ Resident, NZ Work Visa).

Please submit your CV and covering letter to Kirsten Courtney, Practice Manager Newmarket hello@clarentam.co.nz.

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Sweet treats fill gaps in tummies and school funds

Tempting home baking was a sell-out success at the Devonport Community Market, with proceeds from the fundraising cake stall going to Vauxhall Primary School.

All 43 cakes on the stall sold, raising more than \$1575. Money will go towards planting and a playground at the school.

A member of the school's fundraising committee, Sally Scovell, said: "The idea is every child is sent home with a cakebox with instructions and expected to make a cake." Most families contributed, she said.

Bakers included people stuck at home isolating, said Fi Smith, another mother helper on the 2 July stall.

It was the second cake stall the committee has organised this year, with the plan being one a term, held in conjunction with the market at the ferry terminal.

Proceeds were up by several hundred dollars on the term-one fundraiser.

Rallied by Kyra Holland and Anita Stewart, year 5 classes organised the cake-making this term, whipping up recipes ranging from classic favourites to colourful creations decorated with lollies.

Scovell said the disruptions of Covid-19 had halved the amount the committee had been able to raise in the past two years.

In addition, the school's big-ticket event, the Vauxhall Exhibition of Fine Art, was cancelled last month, depriving the school of an expected take of more than \$100,000.

As well as more cake stalls next term and in Term 4, the committee wants to host a bigger event for Halloween. "Because we really want to bring the community and the school together," Scovell said.

Smith said that it was lovely to see people getting out and about, including at the recent Devonport Matariki hiko and school kapa haka events.

"It lifts spirits," Scovell added.



Vauxhall Primary School student Augie Scovell, aged 8, shows off one of the cakes at a recent market day fundraising stall at the Devonport ferry terminal, which was run by (from left) her mother Sally Scovell, Sarah Franks and Fi Smith, all school parents

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Takararoa and Ngau Te Ringaringa Nursery Working Bee
1 - 3pm, Mt Cambria Reserve
lance@rth.org.nz

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20 years ago from the Flagstaff files

- A \$3.2-million Navy Museum is planned for Navy land at Torpedo Bay.
- Devonport windsurfer Tom Ashley wins the world under-20 windsurfing champs in Spain.
- Singing star Debbie Harwood passes on her knowledge to local girls wanting to break into the music industry.
- A pro cycle race through Devonport streets is given the green light by the Devonport Community Board.
- Devonport trailblazer Geoff Chapple is writing a book on his walk the length of New Zealand.
- Around 30 parked cars on Calliope Rd are accidentally sprayed with concrete.
- A solid three-bedroom brick home in Devonport is on the market for \$329,000.
- A public meeting is planned to decide the future of the Devonport Arts Festival.
- Devonport is given a positive plug as a destination in the *South China Morning Post* travel section.
- A major upgrade of Stanley Bay Park drainage is set to stall as sports groups bicker over potential solutions.
- Governor-General Dame Silvia Cartwright visits the Wilson Home.
- Takapuna Grammar's top boys and girls basketball teams both qualify for the national secondary schools tournament.
- Finance company Bridgecorp takes over the Devonport ferry wharf.
- A civil ship catches fire at the Devonport naval base drydock causing smoke to billow over Devonport.
- Takapuna Grammar's first XV makes the semi-finals of the North Harbour secondary school competition for the first time in more than a decade.
- Child cancer specialist David Mauger is the Flagstaff interview subject.

Mud pies and more planned in parks

Mud pies, gymnastics and kite-flying are on the summer agenda for local families.

Auckland Council is planning a range of free activity days, similar to those that ran in a programme from last December to April at multiple parks across the Devonport-Takapuna area.

The local board has given \$20,000 towards the events.

Parks including Fort Takapuna, Northboro Reserve, Windsor Reserve, Woodall Park,

Narrow Neck Beach and Ngataringa Park will host the events.

On the draft list are opportunities to create with clay and playdough, build a cardboard playground, play outdoor games and puzzles, and tackle an obstacle course, along with gymnastics, kite-making and flying – and hungerball, which transports games like soccer and hockey onto an inflatable court.

The board will approve the final programme and locations later in the year.



WHAT'S ON @ Devonport Library

Tēnā Koutou tatou,

Firstly, a big thank you to everyone who came to listen to our 3 guest storyreaders or made their own Mu Torere game during the Puanga Matariki Celebrations on Saturday, 25th June. Lots of fantastic designs and creative flair embued on these games and a new game for many, too

It was bu-sy! We had 1220 people walk through our doors that day. And there was a definite buzz in the air as families moved around the 9 different activity sites on offer around the village.

Now, we continue our Matariki focus with our School Holiday Programme - Ngā Tamariki o Matariki: The Children of Matariki.

On the Monday 18th we will have our second holiday storytime - perfect for the preschoolers and early school children in your house. Throughout the two weeks we will 'release' different activity starters or kits as well as host our Holiday Programme events. On Friday 15th we will have our kowhaiwhai and origami pots for you to create with seeds (and hopefully) kumara shoots to plant in them. In week 2 we will be making raincoats for our favourite soft toys in the style of the traditional raincoats made and worn by early Maori. We plan to finish with a session of science on the last Saturday of the holidays.

Not only that, our kits and events have been created to help you complete our AL Matariki Beanstack Challenge. Complete just one activity from each row on the Badge Activity Board and each activity equals one entry into the fantastic prize draw.

If you would like any more information about our Holiday Programme or the Beanstack Challenge, come into the library or check our Facebook page. Note to Parents: The Beanstack Challenge can also be completed offline if you are away or want a device-free holiday for your family.

Whatever you choose to do, we look forward to seeing you at our place, which is your place, in the village



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DEVONPORT PENINSULA TRUST
Making Community Happen
OUT & ABOUT



Nigel Bioletti
General & Fundraising Manager
Phone 027 445 6211
nigelbioletti@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

Would you like to contribute to your Community? You could in a number of ways. If you would like to discuss, please email me.

HOTOKE/WINTER FUN TAMARIKI PLAY

For pre-schoolers – Abby ran the Tuesday session last week for Maddy, and had 17 parents and their children attend. One group of mums came along together. Bayswater School each Tuesday morning 9:30 to 11:00 am. Interested?



Email abbyjones@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

A FIRST MURAL IS COMPLETE



With funding the Trust secured from the Local Activation Fund (Auckland Unlimited), and in partnership with the Devonport Art Festival Committee, the first of two murals has been completed in the village – with the kind support of the Devonport Senior Citizens group - a Dan Tippett mural on the north side of Harmony Hall. The feedback from passers-by has been very, very positive. Here's Dan having a break, and thinking about where to next. We hope to have the second mural under way by the end of the month.

DEVONPORT SENIOR FORUM

This group meets regularly – the next meeting is being held 2:30 pm Friday July 29th at Devonport Library. If you would like to be part of the group, email me. A concern expressed by the group – that so many people do not actually stop at "Stop" signs. With so many cyclists now moving around Devonport, there is a serious risk that if you do not stop at these signs, you will take out a cyclist you have not seen. Our Community Constable is focusing on this matter.

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

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LIEN ON VESSEL – PALAIS DE LA MER – Notice is hereby given that a lien has been placed on the vessel 'Palais de la Mer' 13m Lidgard Launch at Bayswater Marina. The owner of this vessel or anyone who knows the owners should contact the Bayswater Marina office. Email kim@bayswater.co.nz or phone 09 446 1600. If the owner fails to contact the marina office by 4 August 2022, the vessel will be disposed of under powers granted by the Berth Licence. For any vessel removed, sold or otherwise disposed of under this provision, the owner must reimburse Bayswater Marina for any actual expenses incurred. If the vessel is claimed by the owner before it is sold or otherwise disposed of under this provision, those expenses are payable prior to the owner taking delivery of the vessel.

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Gardener wanted - who is able to look after a good sized garden involving sweeping paths, removing or spraying weeds, trimming hedges & trees, watering & caring for plants, using leaf blower, water blasting, general maintenance etc etc. All tools needed and garden bin are onsite. Must be fit, have some garden knowledge, be reliable & honest and able to work 3-5 hours each week in central Devonport (day of the week flexible). Phone or txt James on 0274-340-300



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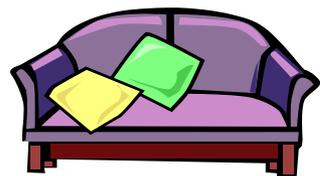
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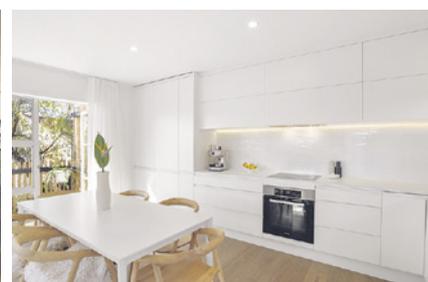
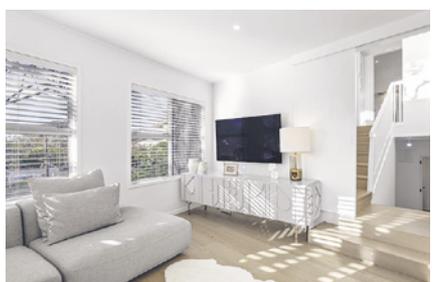
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View

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Kim Pausina
021 201 7488



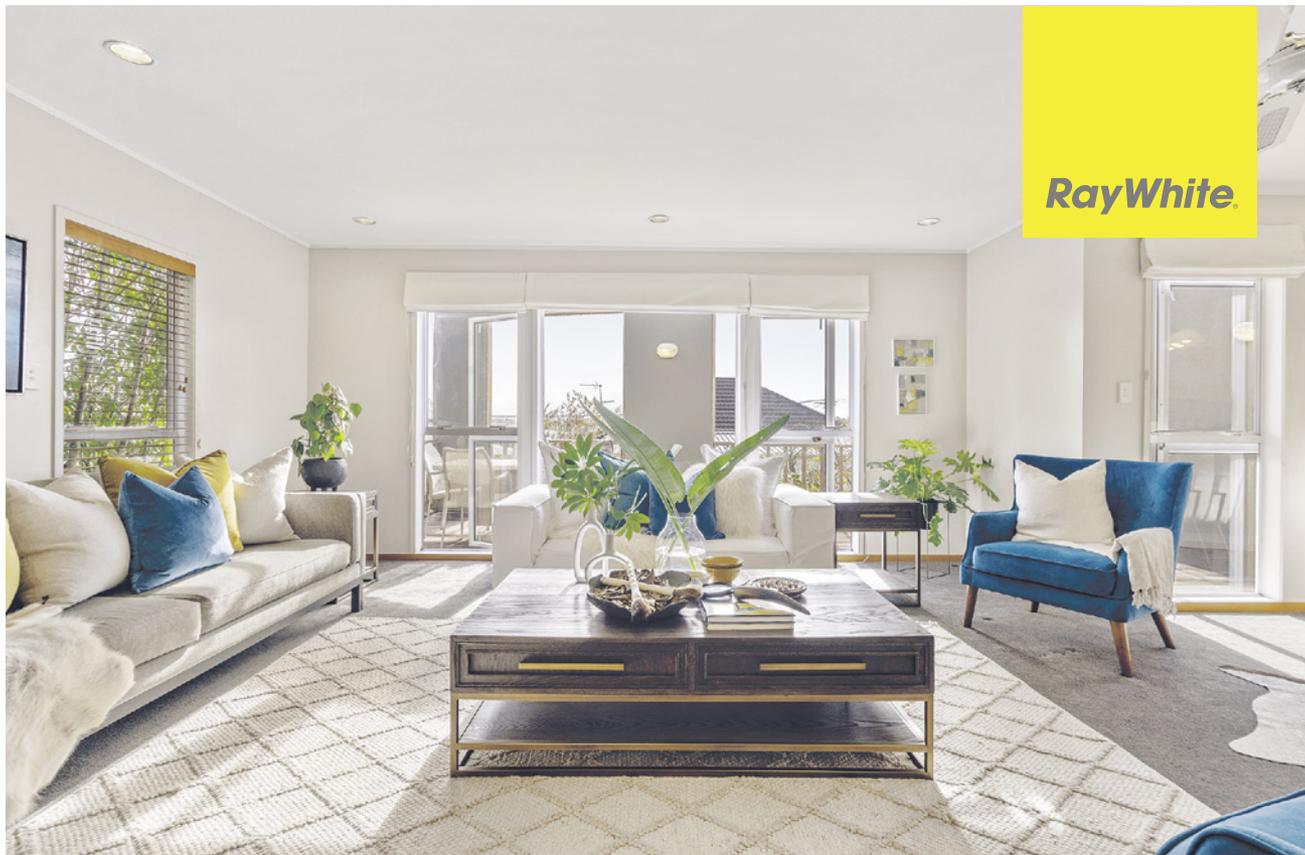
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Try whistling this: band emerges from ukulele jams

From large beginnings with the Devonport Ukulele Group, the smaller but perfectly formed Whistlefish emerged. In this occasional series on local bands lifting our community's musical spirits, Rob Drent reports

Music Fridays is something of a Flagstaff tradition; staff members choose a couple of favourite songs on the computer usually from YouTube.

Recently there's been melodic competition from across the road. The tuneful sounds of Whistlefish waft from Harmony Hall during the afternoon as band members practise together.

The musical paths of Whistlefish and front-man Lance Richardson are closely linked.

Staying in Hawaii with friends in 2011, he went to the swap meet at the Aloha Stadium in Honolulu, and was immediately drawn to the sweet sounds of the ukulele tent.

He loved the versatility and tone of the little instrument.

Richardson became an enthusiastic practitioner and a year or so later, when he played at a friend's house-warming in Cheltenham, one of the Devonport Community House staff asked if he would take a class to help others learn to play.

"Monday nights became filled with eager faces learning to master the ukulele."

As the years rolled by, the Devonport D'ukes grew to become a group of 35 to 40, singing as well as strumming.

"Performing locally for charity and Christmas parties, a lot of red wine was drunk and chocolate eaten."

At the end of 2020, Richardson wanted



to create a smaller group concentrating on harmonies and different genres incorporating the ukulele and Celtic fiddle.

Whistlefish was born, its members all active participants in the D'ukes of Devonport.

"We love performing around Devonport and have gigged for the Navy and private house parties," says Richardson.

Covid put paid to a number of forward bookings, which included potential guest spots at two festivals and at the Coastal Challenge celebration on the Devonport waterfront.

The band is writing its own material to incorporate into its repertoire.

The Band

Michelle Male: vocals, ukulele, guitar, banjo

A Devonport-based artist and tutor and part-time co-ordinator at the Rose Centre Theatre, Male enjoys playing country and folk-rock. Her influences include Fleetwood Mac, Zac Brown, Bella Hardy and Mel Parsons. Male has been singing and performing in choirs for 10 years, but

singing in the shower for more. She has played the ukulele for about six years and the guitar and banjolele more recently. In the Devonport D'ukes ukulele group she played at The Patriot and local charity events. As a member of Whistlefish, she has played at the Bunker, written some of her own songs, made a couple of fun music videos during lockdown and performs regularly at the Friday night session in Harmony Hall.

Linda Whitcombe:

violin, keyboards, vocals

Whitcombe has played the violin professionally in a number of mostly Celtic bands since 1992. From London, she started playing classical violin at primary school and toured France with The London Schools Symphony Orchestra when she was a teenager. Whitcombe loves acoustic jam sessions and can play a variety of musical styles. She has featured on various albums and has played at National Folk Music Festivals throughout New Zealand. She also plays the piano and keyboard and composes music.



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In Harmony Hall... Whistlefish (from left) Linda Whitcombe, Lance Richardson, Michelle Male and Dave Fleming

Dave Fleming: bass, ukulele, vocals

Born-and-bred Devonport local Fleming started playing ukulele bass only two years ago, but began on the bass guitar much earlier – in the mid 1960s and as a member of The Forum Senators at the famous Forum Nightclub in Takapuna.

In the 90s, he jammed regularly with a local band called Boy's Night Out, featuring fellow locals Kevin Hill, Barry Watkin and others.

A two-piece band with his brother Bob Fleming, About Time played for more than 12 years at various venues in Devonport and around the North Island. Their formula of cover songs from the 60s, 70s and 80s, along with a Blues Brothers act, proved popular at local venues as well as weddings, birthday parties and corporate gigs.

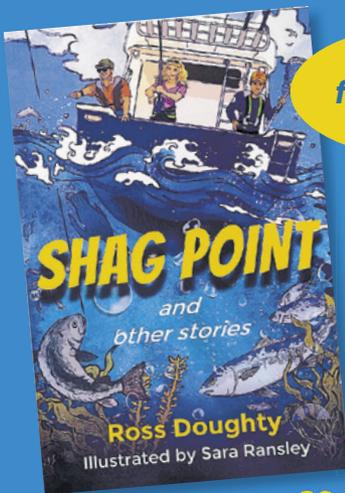
Fleming writes songs, recording and producing his original compositions in his home studio in Devonport.

Lance Richardson: Vocals, Ukulele

A closet shower singer and self-described underwhelming guitar player for many years, Richardson didn't have much room for music due to a full-on family life, with kids at school and a demanding real estate career.

These days, he enjoys playing with the band, writing his own songs and arranging their unique repertoire.

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To help perk you up this month we're inviting budding and established artists to enter our annual Member's Show coming up in August.

This year's show is titled Hapori (community) to signify the embrace of our immediate and extended collective of creative individuals.

This year we want to embrace and support our own creative community so we're thrilled to let you know that we've removed the Member's fee, meaning you can become a Depot Artspace member for FREE and enjoy the benefits of being a member year-round, including receiving invitations to our openings and special events!

Our Member's Show offers an exciting array of art made by local creatives across all sorts of mediums and subject matter.

This year we invite you or anyone you know to enter up to two well-presented, good quality, and easily handled works. This is a wonderful opportunity for first-time exhibitors and established practitioners alike.

Hapori: Member's Show, 6-31 August

Submission dates: 16 July – 3 August

For more details please check us out online at www.depotartspace.co.nz/event/hapori or get in touch at info@depotartspace.co.nz

Nga mihi,

Amy Saunders
General Manager, Depot Artspace

Painting of old Devonport for sale in UK



Early days... John Philemon Backhouse's paintings, *North Shore, Auckland (top)* and *A Maori House* are around 150 years old

Astute collectors of historical colonial landscapes could bag themselves a bargain and a rare depiction of early Devonport – in a forthcoming art auction in the United Kingdom.

A small oil painting of Takarunga and Maungauika is coming up for sale at an auction house in the UK but how it ended up there remains a mystery which its sellers are keen to solve.

Former Flagstaff reporter Angela Kemp has been contacted by an old schoolfriend, Vicky Power, who runs the book section in her local Oxfam shop in York.

“An eagle-eyed colleague spotted the painting along with three others by the same artist in a box of donations and recognised they could be valuable,” Power said.

“They are around 150 years old and were painted by John Philemon Backhouse. The one depicting what I now know to be Devonport is entitled *North Shore, Auckland*. The others are titled *Lake Taupo, Lake Rotokakahi, near Rotorua* and *A Maori House*.

“The auctioneer thinks they will most likely sell to a New Zealander and I thought they might well appeal to a collector in

Devonport,” she said.

The paintings are oil on board measuring 7.5cm by 12.5cm, unframed, and include the artist's stamp.

Auctioneers Tennants estimate a price of £300-£500 for the set of four paintings, which is well below previous prices achieved by the prolific painter who emigrated from England in the 1860s.

In 2006, the International Art Centre sold a painting of a Maori chief on a pearl shell by Backhouse for \$11,000. This was after a previous highest price for the painter of just under \$5000.

More recently his painting of the Waikato River realised \$1200 plus premium at a Dunbar Sloane auction in 2020.

Numerous works by Backhouse are in the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington and, along with New Zealand landscapes, include Australian scenes and birds and insects. Onehunga Library also has his pencil drawings of the area.

The auction is being held on 16 July. The catalogue can be viewed at auctions.tennants.co.uk.

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Mural gives Wynyard St its own gulf view



Big-picture thinking... Artist Daniel Tippett during the creation of a mural on the wall of Harmony Hall

A new addition for Devonport art lovers has sprung up on Wynyard St.

A mural by Daniel Tippett on the wall of Harmony Hall is the latest work to be added to the Devonport Arts Trail.

Promoted by the Devonport Arts Festival, in association with the Devonport Peninsula Trust, the trail is again growing after two pandemic-affected years, with a meeting held last month to plan future steps.

Tippett, one of the country's top street artists, has also painted sets for television and films.

His Harmony Hall work reflects a similar painting he completed in the Coromandel. "It's just a version from the other side of the Gulf – it represents the Hauraki Gulf and the beauty of where we live."

Tippett says he hopes it brings a bit of colour into the lives of people, seeing more than just a plain wall. "I guess [I hope] it just brightens up their day with a bit of enjoyment and some colour."

Tippett says he enjoyed painting when he was young. "And I enjoy doing these public walls because you get out in the community and talk to people and have a bit of a laugh with people."

Most passers-by have been positive in their feedback, and people should support the trust's efforts for art in the community, he says. "I think it's a really good thing."

The arts trail links multiple murals and other artworks around the village.

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Where the Crawdads Sing (M) 125min	Previews 15-20 JUL

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