

The Rangitoto Observer

Takapuna, Milford, Castor Bay, Forrest Hill and Sunnynook

DELIVERED FORTNIGHTLY

Issue 6 - 24 May 2019

AN INDEPENDENT VOICE

Heartbreak Hotel for Presley's neighbours... p2

Former All Black's community dinners... p6-7

Takapuna Rugby premiers on a roll... p22-23

Halal tucker sought to replace 2-minute noodles

A Westlake Girls student is campaigning for halal food to be served in the school's tuckshop so Muslim teenagers are able to eat more than just 2-minute noodles.

Amara Afghan, 17, is a year 13 student

who is determined to make a change on behalf of all other Muslim students.

"No one has ever really talked about this," she says. "I just think the tuck shop should be for everyone."

According to Amara, there are currently three things that are halal in the tuckshop: 2-minute noodles, wedges and garlic bread.

Halal meat refers to the Islamic method

To page 3

Forgotten artwork is one out of the box



Lost and found... A rescued mural has found a new home in Takapuna Library. Pictured with it are (from left) artist E. Mervyn Taylor's granddaughter Natasha Jane Smyser, Erica O'Flaherty of Research North at the library, and Taylor's daughter Rebecca Jane Taylor. Full story p5.

An advertisement for Barfoot & Thompson real estate agency. It features a background image of three people in a professional setting. On the left, there is a logo for the International Property Awards, which includes the text "INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY AWARDS", "BEST INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE AGENCY OVER 20 OFFICES", and "2018-2019". Below this is the SALICE logo. In the center, a blue banner contains the text "The best real estate agency in the world. At your service." At the bottom left, the website "barfoot.co.nz" is listed. At the bottom right, the Barfoot & Thompson logo is displayed.

Heartbreak hotel for Presley's neighbours



Great wall of Takapuna... Richard Goodenough has complained to the council about his neighbour's fence

A resident in one of the Shore's most exclusive streets is frustrated his neighbour, technology entrepreneur Annette Presley, has built a huge wooden fence he describes as an "eyesore".

The 5-metre-high fence was completed late December, which is when Clifton Rd neighbour Richard Goodenough called Auckland Council to complain about it.

Auckland Council officers inspected the fence in January.

Council manager of regulatory compliance Steve Pearce said additions to the fence appeared to be higher than allowed by the Auckland Unitary Plan. "However, the council takes a graduated enforcement approach, which means we work with people to fix problems in the first instance and only escalate to significant formal enforcement action if the effects are serious or requests to comply have not been followed.

"We are still working with both parties to resolve this issue."

On 13 May, the council issued Presley with a legal notice, requiring the removal of the top "vine piece" of the fence and at least one metre of the supporting structure.

She has until 13 June to either lower the section of fence or apply for a retrospective resource consent for the structure.

Goodenough is frustrated by the delay and a lack of information from the council.

He said the fence blocked his view and was unaesthetic. "Our normal view is out toward the sea, between a tree and the house. It's a good view out to the Hauraki Gulf."

Plastic plants at the top of the wooden wall only added to the "eyesore", he said.

Presley's business manager, Hayley Maloney said, in an email Presley had no comment. "We are dealing with a consultant that is going through the consent process with the council."

Rich-lister Presley was a co-founder of internet company Slingshot. In the 2016 Queen's Birthday Honours she was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to business and women.

In a 9 May email to Goodenough, a council compliance officer said Presley had declined an offer from Goodenough to agree to her lowering her fence to the same height as his 2.4m fence, on the other side of a path. The council officer understood Presley was going to apply for a resource consent for the fence.

There is a path between the two properties that was historically owned by a trust. However, no one from the trust is still alive, according to Goodenough's research.

Pearce advised anyone planning to build a fence higher than 2m to contact the council to check whether it complied with the Building Act and Resource Management Act.

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NEXT ISSUE: June 7
ADVERTISING DEADLINE: May 31

From page 1

Halal support in wake of Chch shooting



'Everyone is on board'...Westlake's Amara Afghan is pitching for halal food in the tuck shop.

of slaughtering animals through a cut to the jugular vein, carotid artery and windpipe.

The animal must be alive and healthy at the time of slaughter and a prayer is said before the animal is killed while facing Mecca.

For Amara, and over 150 other Muslim students, this means missing out on foods such as sushi, wraps, lasagne, spaghetti and sandwiches.

"If the meat was halal, then it could just be for everyone," she says.

Amara has already approached the school, which is supportive of her idea, as well as the owner of the tuck shop who wants her to present them with research.

"I feel like, after the Christchurch shooting, everyone is a lot more educated on this type of thing," she says.

Amara has spoken to other Muslim students, approached stakeholders and is already conducting her research into halal meats for the tuck shop.

She has found several brands of chicken that are stocked in Countdown and Pak'n'Save that are halal and is hoping to see the school make the change by the end of this term.

"I haven't received any negative response from anyone. Everyone is on board, it's just they hadn't even thought about it," she says.

Principal Jane Stanley said: "We often ask students for feedback on our canteen food options and any constructive ideas are welcomed. Amara's research project is a positive response."

Meeting to lobby for pest-free coordinator

The Takapuna North Environmental Network is trying to rally support for a new pest-free coordinator.

The group held a community workshop on 16 May, which was attended by over 30 people, including board member Mike Cohen and a representative from Auckland Council.

It was announced the Network would be lobbying Auckland Council for a paid pest-free coordinator.

The pest-free coordinator would lead projects to eradicate pests and restore the local ecosystem, as well as motivate the community to get involved.

Attendees were given an opportunity to express their support for the role, as well as to discuss challenges it might face.

"There is a whole population out there that is not engaged," said Tabitha Becroft, who has been leading monthly working bees in Sunnynook Reserve.

Takapuna community coordinator Sarah Thorne says the plan for a pest-free coordinator is yet to be finalised through Auckland Council.

Milford Bridge stuck up for six weeks

The \$3.2 million Milford marina lifting bridge was still stuck in the "up" position for six weeks recently, at a cost to ratepayers of almost \$100,000.

This comes at the end of an eight-month period where AT recorded 64 mechanical issues with the relatively new bridge, according to an official information request.

Auckland Council said the bridge would be working again on 10 May, but residents were dismayed when the date came and went with the bridge still out of action.

"Testing of the software upgrades to the Wairau Stream pedestrian bridge in Milford identified the need for further refinements to the bridge's calibration," council's head of operational management

and maintenance Agnes McCormack said.

On 17 May, the bridge finally reopened.

The bridge opened in December 2015, at a total cost of \$3.2 million, in response to community lobbying for a replacement for a high wooden bridge that had been dismantled about 30 years earlier.

North Shore councillor Richard Hills is enquiring about whether the mechanical repairs could be covered by a warranty.

"Castor Bay and Milford residents were celebrating their new pedestrian bridge 3.5 years ago, but are now completely frustrated with the constant issues that leave it unusable. It's a completely unacceptable situation," he says.

The software repairs would not be covered by a warranty, council says.

Rediscovered modernist work unveiled in library

A historic mural by an acclaimed New Zealand modernist artist is on display in the Takapuna Library after being lost for three decades.

In 1961, Wellington-based artist E. Mervyn Taylor created the ceramic mural, *Te Ika-a-Maui*, as a commission for the New Zealand Post Office, to celebrate the completion of the Tasman leg of the new Commonwealth Pacific Cable (COMPAC).

“There was an analogy, [Taylor] thought, between the ‘fishing up’ of New Zealand by Maui and its modern counterpart, where the new cable again draws New Zealand out of the Pacific into the telephone systems of the world,” a press release about the mural stated at the time.

Prior to COMPAC, New Zealand had an unreliable radio-based telephone service.

The mural was housed in the COMPAC terminal at 1 Akoranga Drive in Northcote and open to the public until after the cable was decommissioned in November 1984.

In the late 80s, the Post Office was split into three new enterprises and, a few years later, one, Telecom, was sold to two US-based businesses, Bell Atlantic and Ameritech. Around this time, a high-security fence was installed around the Northcote COMPAC complex.

Tiles had started falling off the mural, which was taken down and stored in boxes in an adjacent office until 2014, when they were rediscovered by a PhD student, Bronwyn Holloway-Smith.

Artist Holloway-Smith was researching the origins of today’s Southern Cross Cable, which reaches land at Takapuna Beach and is the country’s main internet link.

She led a project to restore the mural and create a photographic version.

The restoration of the ceramic mural was completed by the Spark Arts Trust, with



The big reveal... Rebecca Jane Taylor, daughter of artist E. Mervyn Taylor, unveils *Te Ika-a-Maui* at the Takapuna Library. Bronwyn Holloway-Smith (below) rediscovered the mural.

assistance from Devonport conservator Rose Evan.

Te Ika-a-Maui is one of only eight remaining murals by Taylor, only three of which are ceramic-tile murals.

Spark worked with Auckland Council to find a suitable home for the work, with Takapuna Library chosen this year, because of its proximity to the Southern Cross Cable.

Te Ika-a-Maui is on display in the Research North area on level one of the library, where a weight-bearing wall is strong enough to carry the heavy ceramic artwork.



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Westlake mates in Rockquest battle of bands



Drums of war... Westlake Boys band members prepare for regional finals: (from left) Daniel Cruz, Francis Lustre, Wayden Theodore, Dirk Encela, E.T. Archer, Enrique Tranter, Geoffrey Patton and Nathan Murray.

School friends will become competitors as two Westlake Boys bands prepare to go head-to-head in the Smokefree Rockquest regional finals.

Bands Six Four and Special Ed were two of 12 bands selected to go through to the final to be held next month.

The heats were held on May 10 at Auckland Girls Grammar, with 48 bands competing, nine from Westlake Boys.

"It was exhilarating to say the least," says Nathan Murray, the guitarist of Six Four. "Everything that could go wrong did go wrong."

The bands had to perform an original song, and Six Four have only been together since the start of the year.

Special Ed are all in year 13, and it is the third

time they have competed in the Rockquest.

"The element of nerves is always going to be there," says bass player Wayden Theodore, "but we have really grown together as a band."

Music teacher David Flyger feels a special connection with Special Ed, as the band was formed in his first year teaching at the school.

"All my bands are like my babies," he says. "But they're like my first born."

The students say they are preparing to face some tough competition, including having to compete against one another.

Wayden says: "There is some almost impossible competition. There's an awesome heavy metal band, a rock band and, of course, Six Four."

Flyger says he is very proud of the boys and says making it to the regional finals is a success in itself.

"It's a real lottery, you never really know what the judges are looking for," he says.

Both bands give praise to Flyger on his teaching methods and mentoring abilities, and say that he has helped them find their sound.

"He's a great teacher," says Nathan. "He's very supportive even though we all have different abilities."

Wayden adds, "That's the thing about Mr Flyger, he always keeps it 98 plus 2 and he will tell you if something's up."

Regional finals will be held at Auckland Girls Grammar on Friday, 7 June.

The Zombie Phase

We attended a property seminar last week hosted by our friends at Hobson Wealth, and heard long-term property oracle Olly Newland speak. He's been in the game for 68 years and had some interesting insights, including his description of the current residential property market as being in a Zombie Phase.

Newland sees a long, flat period for house prices with only another global financial-type crisis as likely to cause a major fall. Otherwise it is the few who HAVE to sell and the affordability gap that are dictating a softer market.

The affordability gap will take time to close, with slowly higher incomes and lower house prices, and was previously filled by (no longer) foreign buyers and easier LVR and bank-lending policies.

Newland saw more potential and increasing numbers of investors entering the commercial property market, where office and industrial demand was high, particularly from offshore investors seeking yield and value-add by rearranging tenancy agreements, zoning and building improvement.

It was interesting to see the RBNZ cut the Official Cash Rate (OCR) by 0.25% to 1.50% (same as Australia). We don't see this having much effect on floating rates (with cuts of a few points only) and it unlikely to reignite the housing market. We were already seeing one to three-year fixed rates all below 4%.

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Takapuna's Friday-night food kitchen: Where all



Friendships strengthened through volunteering... Chris Martin (left) has a bite to eat with Ian Jones



Volunteers Matthew Martin, Melanie Martin and Janine Jones



Show time... Savannah Martin (left) and Jacob Martin perform the quick step

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Celia Whitfield (left) Eileen Bandcroft and Ian Jones (right) enjoy the conversation and company that Eddie's Meals provide

are welcome to catch up with the Joneses

A soup kitchen with a difference has given some Takapuna locals another reason to count down the days until Friday.

Eddie's Meals is a community food kitchen that was started by former All Black Ian Jones and his family in December 2018.

"My family has been very blessed and we want to share those blessings," says Jones. "We are lucky that we have a wonderful life and it's a pleasure to come and be with whoever walks through the door."

Eddie's Meals is held at Rosmini College every Friday from 6pm, and is catered by the Jones family and a growing group of volunteers.

The name Eddie's Meals came from Jones' swimming group, which is named 'Eddie's Eels' after a good friend of his and chiropractor to various All Blacks, Ed Timmings.

"It's a great name, cause it kind of doesn't mean anything to anyone," says Jones.

Jones says that he has met so many amazing people who tell him they count down the days until the next meal.

The Jones family welcomes anyone through the doors, from those facing financial struggles or social isolation to others just wanting to have a nice dinner on a Friday night.

"It doesn't matter why you come. Your reason to come is reason enough," says Jones.

"We don't just serve food, we bring conversation and company, and sit and talk with people."

His goal is to use the dinners as a platform for guests to form friendships and bonds that will eventually assist one another outside of the gatherings.

The Friday night dinners currently attract around 25-30 guests ranging from six to ninety years of age, and a large group of volunteers.

Performances are given most Friday nights, including by singers, dancers and bands who are friends and family of volunteers.

Jones says that his wife, Janine, a nurse at North Shore Hospital, initially came up with the idea.

"Just because we live in a beautiful part of Auckland doesn't mean there's no need," says Janine. "I see these people every day at work. You can have all the money in the world and still be lonely."

Colleagues of Janine's are among the group of volunteers.

Jones is on the Rosmini College board, with one son currently attending the school and another who is a former pupil.

"Community food kitchens are needed everywhere," says Jones. "We are trying to create the least amount of barriers possible. It's not an easy thing to come along. It takes a lot for people and I understand that, but there is no judgement through this door. Our commitment to you is that we will always be here, every Friday night."



Eddie's Meals is held in Rosmini College auditorium every Friday night 6pm-8pm. If you are interested in volunteering contact Ian Jones at kamokid@xtra.co.nz

**Regular attendees...
John Bush, left, and
Ray Evans with Ian Jones**

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Takapuna camping ground lease set to be finalised



An artist's impression of what the redeveloped campground may look like

A new Takapuna camping ground lease for 20 years, with a 10 year right of renewal, is set to be granted this week.

A new operator for the campground has been found by Auckland Council's development arm Panuku, with final agreements to be signed after the lease terms are approved.

The lease arrangements were to be discussed by the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board on Tuesday night after the Observer went to press.

The board resolved in September 2017 to lease the footprint of the current campground. Since then Panuku has been working on finding an operator to redevelop the site.

The current operator is removing its cabins, caravans and office from the site.

The redevelopment will include landscaping and construction of new buildings to include: camping and tent sites, campervan and caravan sites, small and family accommodation, a communal kitchen, laundry, ablutions and an office.

A holiday park has operated at the northern end of Takapuna Beach for 100 years. A lease between Auckland Council and the Real Kiwi Holiday Company expired in 2013, sparking a large community campaign to retain the land as a campground.



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Local board's O'Connor proud of fight for parks

A local politician recognised in the Queen's Birthday honours is most proud of her success in battling for parks and public transport.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member Jan O'Connor received a Queen's Service Medal for service to the community and local government at an investiture ceremony in Government House on 14 May.

O'Connor started her political career fighting a proposed building on Takapuna's Potter's Park, by finding the original deed specifying it couldn't be built on.

She has been a strong defender of public space, especially in the Takapuna area where it is scarce, and it especially proud of a successful community fight to save the Takapuna Beach Holiday Park, which is a reserve.

Another early battle was for one of the Shore's first bus lanes, along Esmonde Rd. Heritage has been another passion, O'Connor says.



Recognition... Jan O'Connor QSM (second from left) is pictured at Government House with friends (from left), Sandra Allen, Susan Wann and Norah Gabriel

Another notable North Shore resident, businessman Sir Stephen Tindall, had his knighthood upgraded to a Grand Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Takapuna design team wins gongs

Two international awards are recognition for a Takapuna graphic-design team that works while others play, according to the company's manager and founder.

OnFire Design has been recognised with two Dieline Awards, known as "the Academy Awards" of packaging design.

The Dieline awards attract more than 1500 entries from 22 countries, with brands like Pepsi, Dunkin Donuts, Bacardi Rum, Budweiser and more on the entry list.

It is recognition for the long hours the team works, says managing director Sam Allan.

OnFire also designed the branding, marketing material and website for a Kiwi bike start-up, Chapter2, that won a Red Dot Award, a sought-after international product-design award.

"I'm very passionate about helping local manufacturers and producers take on the world," says Allan.

The OnFire team moved from Birkenhead to Takapuna last year.

"We jumped at the chance. It means local companies have an internationally recognised creative agency on their doorstep."



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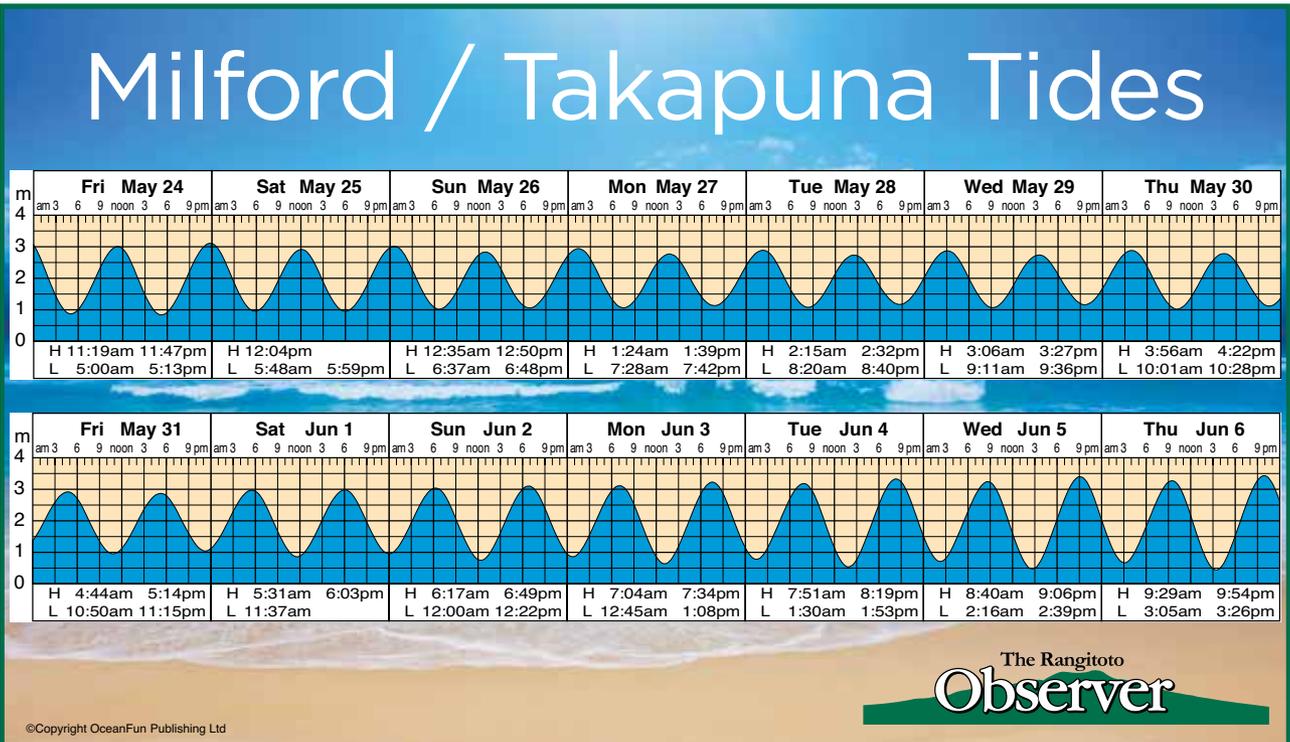
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Dogs make walking on the beach a nerve-racking experience

I regularly walk Takapuna and Milford beaches and around the rocks between Milford and Takapuna.

I have done it for many years but unfortunately it is becoming unsafe and quite terrifying at times. I have been several times knocked off my balance while walking around the rocks by an out-of-control dog charging around beside me.

There are so many dogs on Takapuna Beach at any one time and at least 80 per cent are not on a lead. The owners have no control over them, and you have to be constantly watching that you are not going to be bowled over. It used to be relaxing walking the beach. Now it is somewhat nerve-racking to say the least.

Just yesterday, on my way back to Milford Beach a dog (I am pretty sure it was a pit bull) attacked another dog, with its jaws around the other dog's throat. The woman owner had no control and was hysterical trying get the dog off.

At Milford Beach about a month ago, an elderly lady was in just over waist deep water and a dog came straight for her, charging down the beach and into the water. She screamed at the owner and finally the dog went back.

It's just not on. We aren't safe walking the beach and now it seems not safe in the water either.

Can we please get our beaches back to where we feel safe again?

Most dog owners seem to be pretty good at picking up their dog's deposits, but there are plenty that are not.

A total ban for me would be the best solution, but maybe they could be restricted to be off the beach between 7am to 6pm in the winter and 6am to 9pm in the summer.

Robert Senior

Ducks need water

We will be seeing more problems for waterfowl and all our birdlife in the years to come if we don't take some responsibility as bird lovers.

It is not fair to expect the council to cope with sick and dying ducks every summer when we, the public, can do a lot to prevent this ourselves. Ducks, waterfowl and all birds need fresh water all year round but especially in summer.

The outbreaks of botulism are not only the result of being fed white bread but the lack of fresh water for these birds to drink. Sup-

plying them with fresh water daily in plastic bowls, beside waterways, large enough for ducks to drink from is an easy thing for people to organise. I do this frequently for the ducks by the golf course in Devonport. It takes no more than 10 minutes and it is a delight to see how the birds enjoy a big drink of water. Anyone can do this. It seems a bit crazy we as a nation are paying millions to save our birdlife yet no one mentions the vital need for fresh, clean drinking water for them.

Michelle Androu

Planning reduces uncertainty



Martin Edwards
Mandy Pettit

We often meet with people nearing or in retirement who are considering how much money they need and how much they can draw down from their investments on a regular basis.

The spectrum of views on this question ranges from those who wish to spend their last dollar to others who don't wish to tap into their capital at all, perhaps intending to leave it all to the kids.

Of course someone with substantial assets, like Bill Gates, would have a very different attitude to investing \$500,000 compared to someone

for whom that sum must provide for them for 30 years.

There are some rules of thumb for this calculation but since none of us can foresee the future there are always a lot of unknowns, such as:

- What age do you expect to live to?
- What lifestyle choices will you make in retirement?
- How much investment risk are you prepared to take?
- What investment returns are realistically achievable during your retirement years?

While achieving a good investment return is important to everyone, risk and return often go hand in hand. We often find that people are quite unaware of the range of investment risks they may currently be taking.

When dealing with our clients on a personalised basis we look at their full situation and how different investment mixes can help meet their investment objectives while still enabling them to sleep at

night. We are friendly and approachable and will take time to understand and discuss your personal situation to assist your retirement decision making.

Martin Edwards and Mandy Pettit are Authorised Financial Advisers with Forsyth Barr, North Shore. To arrange a meeting to discuss your investment objectives in confidence, call (09) 368 0034 or email ns@forsythbarr.co.nz

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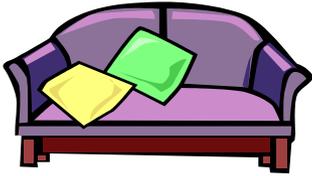
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Rangitoto Observer launch goes national



Keeping it local... Rangitoto Observer managing editor Rob Drent pictured hand-delivering (above and below) and, below, with Helen from the Booklover



Milford and Takapuna received national exposure this month as part of a feature on local newspapers published in *North & South* magazine.

“Local Matters”, a story on the rise of community newspapers across New Zealand, featured the *Rangitoto Observer*, and its sister paper the *Devonport Flagstaff*.

Observer and *Flagstaff* managing editor Rob Drent was quoted and photographed.

Drent said: “The exposure was all pretty unexpected but great that there is still interest in local newspapers.

“Hopefully in a small way it will also put Takapuna and Milford on the national radar.

“It was fantastic to see the Booklover in the photo spread as well. It’s one of the best niche businesses on the North Shore.”

The Rangitoto Observer launch also featured on Radio New Zealand’s Morning Report.

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**Christchurch aftermath:
 Is NZ different?
 – free talk**

Historian Professor Michael Belgrave will give a free talk on the topic of ‘Christchurch and its aftermath: Is NZ different?’ in Takapuna on 22 May. There will be a light lunch provided at the event, from noon to 2pm, at the Channel View Lounge, Mary Thomas Centre, 3 Gibbons Rd. RSVP: info@ancad.org.nz, ph 09 486-4820.



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Rare historic homesteads set to lose protection

Two of Takapuna and Milford's oldest historic homes are at risk of losing protection, as Auckland Council proposes to downgrade their heritage status.

The homes are Earnoch, built in 1876 as a summer house for prominent businessman John Robertson, and Porthcurnow East, a once-grand gabled house dating back to the 1880s.

"It's devastating for people in those areas. Those stories are important to Takapuna and Milford" says North Shore watchdog Devonport Heritage's Trish Deans.

Takapuna and Milford have few historic buildings left, partly because there's no heritage group in the area, Deans says.

Earnoch would change from category A, which it had under the North Shore City Council, to category B and Porthcurnow East would be deleted from the schedule, at the owner's request. A further Milford building, the former Halling Homestead at 68 Kitchener Rd would have its description changed.

Auckland Council's heritage manager Noel Reardon says there is little difference between category A and category B levels.

Buildings have to be of national or regional significance to warrant category A protection, Reardon says. Category A buildings cannot be demolished, while category B buildings could be demolished with a consent, something Reardon says would be highly unlikely to be approved. Any modifications are subject to a consent process.

However, Devonport Heritage maintains buildings lose protection from when they are



Earnoch, 195-6 Hurstmere Rd, is one of two remaining summer houses from the 1880s built on the shores of Lake Pupuke, set to be changed from category A to B in a proposed Unitary Plan change.

changed from category A to B.

When the super city came in, 13 buildings in Takapuna were removed from the heritage register, actually based on work done by the North Shore council. Many more were marked A*, which meant they had been category A, but would be reviewed, as the former eight councils had different criteria.

Takapuna resident and heritage advocate Claudia Page says she can see the rationale for the council changing buildings from category A to B in the Unitary Plan for consistency across the region.

Earnoch Homestead has remarkable features, such as French windows that disappear when raised. It is easy to imagine the holiday house, when it stood on a 6000sqm site and looked out to Lake Pupuke and the Rangitoto channel, she says.

Page 'reluctantly' agrees Porthcurnow has been modified to the point where it no longer deserves listing, especially because it has been moved from the original site and half of the house relocated to west Auckland.

The plan change is due to be publicly notified at the end of May.

Rotary helps Age Concern buy staff car



Takapuna and Takapuna North were among five North Shore Rotary clubs that raised \$19,000 for a staff car for Age Concern North Shore. The charity would use it for some of its 700 home visits each year, where older people are unable to visit its office.



Porthcurnow East, 14 Muritai Rd, Milford, is set to be removed from the schedule of historic places at the owner's request. It is one of Milford's oldest houses, but the council says it has been modified to such an extent the original double-gabled house of the late 1880s is no longer recognisable. Built by Anglican clergyman Reverend Edward Houchen, it was one of only two houses in the area at the time.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

The School Trustee Elections are being held this year and we need you to get involved.

Takapuna Grammar School is governed by a democratically elected group of people called the Board of Trustees. These trustees make important decisions about our school's strategic direction, student achievement outcomes, resources, staffing and much more. Being a trustee is an important and rewarding role. Parents, family members, whanau and people from the wider community can all be trustees. We are looking for a range of people with a variety of skills, attributes and experiences who believe in making a difference to our children's learning.

If you are interested in standing for election or nominating someone else, please contact the school office on 09 489 4167 or the Returning Officer, Mr Michael Barlow, on 0210 422 423.

Nominations will close at noon on Friday, 24 May 2019.

Voting Papers will be posted to all eligible voters by Tuesday, 28 May 2019.

Make sure that your vote counts – all parents and legal guardians of full time students who are on the school voting roll can, and should vote in the elections

Soapbox unveiling

'Soapbox' – a new and interactive public artwork – will be unveiled at Kilarney Park on 25 May from 11am to 1pm.

The platform has been designed and built by a collective of artists in collaboration with architecture and design firm Jasmax. 'Soapbox' will host artistic performances.

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'Locals talk' project short-listed for grant

A Pumphouse monologue project which would see a cross-section of Devonport-Takapuna residents interviewed about their life, aspirations and vision for their community has been shortlisted for a \$65,000 council grant.

"These interviews would be edited into monologues, and then performed by actors in a TED Talk style event at the Pumphouse," said the North Shore Theatre and Arts Trust in its application.

Other short-listed applications included:

- An 'Atarau' Festival, spread over three days at North Head, Devonport, opening on a full moon and experiencing the mountain from within the tunnels and on the maunga.

- Reo o Tenei Wahi (Voices of the Place) – a project including eight flags on stands from 16 groups, drawing on the nautical history of Devonport and Takapuna.

- Depot Artspace's ConnectUs 360 – a series of exhibitions, discussions, sound, performance, and film focusing on creating a sense of "place, belonging, identity, and purpose in our town".

- Paragon Matter Devonport – a series of sculptures by artists interacting with architectural and historical places around Devonport over a series of weekends.

- Art in the Street: an open gallery outside the Rose Centre, featuring five billboard-like

structures where artists will create temporary murals.

The grant money comes from a legacy fund from the Auckland Regional Services Trust. Council officers put the options to a Devonport-Takapuna Local Board workshop last week. A council's arts and cultural advisor will seek more concrete proposals from the short-listed applicants and put a report to the board's June meeting.

Board mulls grant for Milford Cruising Club

A \$20,000 grant to bolster Milford Cruising Club's redevelopment plans will be considered by the Devonport Takapuna Local Board.

In August 2018, the cruising club applied for \$50,000 from the board for a clubrooms development.

The board asked the club to withdraw the application and look for funds elsewhere.

The cruising club has so far raised \$403,000 for the project, a council memo to the board last week said.

The club has begun the project, which will cost up to \$449,625.

Council officers told the board at a workshop last week there was money available for the \$20,000 grant.

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To be successful your CV will show that you have solid customer service experience, strong people skills, and the ability to communicate effectively.

If you have loads of energy and are looking for a job in which you can really make a difference to a beloved North Shore landmark, then please apply with your covering letter (which outlines your experience and why you'd be perfect for the job) and a CV that shows your relevant experience. The position description can be found on our website at pumphouse.co.nz

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Takapuna beat North Shore



Crunch time...Takapuna captain Shane Neville is sandwiched between two North Shore defenders; Takapuna on attack at left and Sam Hall scoring a try below

Photos Brett Phibbs



to take out thrilling local derby



On the burst... Takapuna hooker Steven Misa (above) takes on the North Shore defence



Half century...Sam Hall notches 50 games for Takapuna this Saturday

Takapuna Rugby Club premiers halfback Sam Hall celebrates 50 games for the team when it takes on Marist at home this Saturday.

After a default by Glenfield last weekend and a thrilling 27-26 win over arch-rivals North Shore in its previous match, Takapuna coach Blair Urlich said the side was hoping to try out “a few new things” this weekend.

“Whether they work or not, we will see on the scoreboard.”

The teams with the most depth – North Shore, Takapuna, East Coast Bays and Northcote – had cleared out from the rest of the pack in the championship race this season.

Urlich was predicting a late season resurgence from Massey, once it fields a fuller squad, and top players return.

- Both North Shore and Takapuna teams were sent an “unacceptable behaviour” warning from the North Harbour Union following an all-in melee during the match.

A scrap on the field saw reserves from both teams run on the field to join in.

Denis Henderson, head of North Harbour rugby operations, said after watching a video of the incident: “We sent an email to both clubs that it was unacceptable for players on the reserves beach to run on the field, and the clubs have made that clear to the players.”

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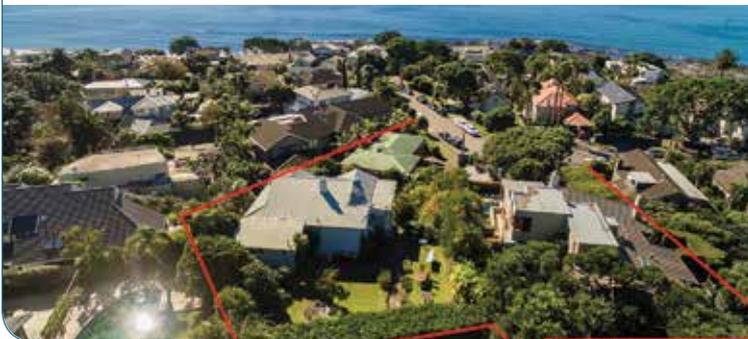
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