

The Rangitoto Observer

DELIVERED FORTNIGHTLY

Issue 50 – February 5, 2021

AN INDEPENDENT VOICE

Champagne theft
foiled... p2

Local school results strong
despite pandemic... p3

Young athletes bag
NZ records... p13

Illegal reserve carparking poses 'threat to child safety'

Illegal car parking at Milford Reserve has reached new highs with 67 vehicles counted on the grass and under trees on Auckland Anniversary Day, prompting calls for a crackdown.

"Locals are fearing for the safety of children using the area," says Devonport-

Takapuna Local Board deputy chair George Wood, who complained to Auckland Council about the influx. Fellow board member Ruth Jackson made the count around 5.30pm.

With another long weekend looming for Waitangi Day observance and crowds likely

for America's Cup yacht racing ahead, the co-chair of the Milford Residents Association, Norma Bott, this week wrote to the council calling for action.

"It's just so frustrating," she says. Since before Christmas a trickle of people park-

To page 2

True grit: sandcastle builders hit the beach



Team work... Kaia and Bas Gundry build a sandcastle village for the Summer Days sandcastle competition on Takapuna Beach. Story and more photos, pages 6-7.



Small class sizes. Huge opportunities!

- Small Senior School class sizes (13 students on average) and state-of-the-art equipment and facilities
- The choice to study NCEA or the IB Diploma Programme with a vast range of subject options and co-curricular opportunities

Take a tour and see for yourself!
Visit www.kristin.school.nz or call 09 415 9566.


Kristin
SENIOR SCHOOL

Corked: Brazen bubbles theft a fizzer

A brazen attempted Champagne theft at the New World Supermarket at the Shore City Mall in Takapuna has shocked locals.

A man who attempted to steal a trolley full of champagne hidden under chips and loaves of bread fled the supermarket when a nearby customer spotted him and alerted security.

The incident happened on Monday 25 January at 2pm.

Takapuna resident Sian Leonard said there were three attempted thefts in two hours at New World.

“The offender I witnessed at New World had

18 bottles of Champagne worth over \$3000 badly hidden under packets of multi-pack chips and four loaves of bread. It wasn’t his first rodeo,” she told the Observer.

New World Shore City store owner Doug Cochrane declined to talk in detail about the incident. But he said: “Shoplifting is a crime and our store does not tolerate it,” said “Any customer caught shoplifting will be trespassed and turned over to the police.”

He said they have robust strategies in place to keep stock loss to a minimum and to protect staff and customers, such as increased

security via CCTV, theft reporting to police and trespass orders.

Police staff have done checks on other supermarkets in the area over the past month.

A spokesperson said there was one report relating to a shoplifting incident at the Devonport New World late last month. No shoplifting offences had been reported at the Takapuna Countdown or New World in Milford in the last month.

“There are no reports to indicate an increase or any recent spate of this type of offending,” he said.

From page 1

Forrest Hill’s year of the rats

Forrest Hill residents are blaming unkempt properties for a growing rat infestation.

In what a North Shore pest controller described as “a good year for rats”, the area around Selwyn Cres seems particularly hard hit.

For several months, resident Lois Tongs and her nearby neighbours have battled with an influx of the rodents around the north end of the crescent. “We like to have our doors open in summer but having rats around it restricts your way of living,” she says.

Tongs first noticed the rat invasion in November. “We were having drinks on the porch and saw them run across the yard,” she says.

A rat then entered a nearby neighbour’s home, sending the woman into hysterics before Tongs’ husband helped remove it, she says. Tongs has seen dead rats on the road.

Pupuke Birdsong Project environmental coordinator Fiona Martin, who is coordinating a Takapuna North Community Trust pest-free

and restoration plan, says more community help is needed for trapping in the area. Selwyn Cres faces a “terrible plague of rats”, she says.

Nearby Knightsbridge Reserve is another area the project would like to extend its trapping overview to, to keep numbers there in check.

Plenty of pests are also being sighted in Takapuna. Lyndsay Peak, a street champion for Byron Ave, caught six possums in one week and believes pest numbers generally could be on the rise. “There are signs of rats too, so we are being proactive about trapping,” he says. He has been door knocking to try to get traps out to residents.

Tongs says if traps are provided she will do the same in Selwyn Cres. For several months she has been using poison.

Martin says: “We’re hearing about lots of rats all over the place and especially near water.”

The Observer spoke to several pest control companies who say this time of year is peak breeding season for rats. One says callouts from Forrest Hill usually run at four or five a week.

Craig Smith of North Shore Pest Control says a key deterrent is ensuring sections are kept tidy, with vegetation cut back and clutter minimised.

Construction can disturb rats, sending them onto neighbouring properties, he says. Leaking pipes attract them as do overhanging branches which can prove a bridge to roofs and into cavities. “It’s just basically commonsense, but it tends to go out the window.”

Tongs blames long grass and debris on two residential properties for the Selwyn Cres woes.

Reserve parking danger

ing around the rim of the reserve had raised concerns, but last weekend was a “disaster,” she said. “People think it must be alright, there’s one car there, and others just do it.”

Wood wants council parks officers to immediately clamp down on entry to the reserve. “How these people were able to get through the locked chain is a mystery and it needs to be sorted,” he said.

Bott said beachgoers needed to realise that “you stop, you drop, then you go park somewhere else.” More parking was available nearby.

She wants no parking signage first, and if that fails then enforcement of the regulations.

The Observer approached the council and Auckland Transport for comment. The council had not responded by our deadline and AT said it only became involved if enforcement was delegated to it by the council.

2 The Strand: empty for 988 days

The former Takapuna Library building at 2 The Strand has been vacant since an earthquake notice was issued in March 2018. The 1956 heritage-listed public building has now been unoccupied for 988 days.

**The Rangitoto
Observer**

Delivered to 10,000 homes



Devonport Publishing Ltd Level 1, 6-8 Milford Road
Telephone: 09 445 0060
Email: sales@rangitoto-observer.co.nz
 news@rangitoto-observer.co.nz
Website: www.rangitoto-observer.co.nz

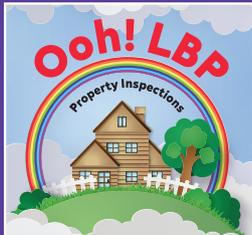
MANAGING EDITOR: Rob Drent
PUBLISHER: Peter Wilson
ADVERTISING: Liz Cannon
CHIEF REPORTER: Janetta Mackay
REPORTER: Anneka Brown

Information in the Rangitoto Observer is copyright and cannot be published or broadcast without the permission of Devonport Publishing Ltd.

NEXT ISSUE: February 19
ADVERTISING DEADLINE: February 12



Pre-Purchase & Pre-Sale
Inspections & Reports



Verbal Reports from \$290

Written Reports from \$445

Meth Testing from \$170

027 610 2336 • info@oohlbp.co.nz

BOOK ONLINE @ WWW.OOHLBP.CO.NZ

PROPERTY
INSPECTION
SERVICES

Schools bounce back with good results

Local school examination results for 2020 have exceeded expectations, with principals reporting that student achievements were strong despite the Covid-19 disrupted year.

Many recorded results as good as or better than in 2019, with NCEA pass rates over 90 per cent.

Rolls are generally steady. Most have retained a higher than expected number of their revenue-generating foreign students who stayed in the country over the holidays, although student numbers from overseas are down overall, requiring budgets to be tightened.

Westlake Girls High School starts term one with almost 2300 students, similar to last year, but has wait lists across all year levels. Rosmini College's numbers are also capped at just under 1100, with the school unable to consider taking extra students until a new classroom block is completed. At Carmel College, an extra Year 7 class has been added, growing the number of new entrant classes from five to six and boosting the overall roll slightly.

Private school Kristin, which draws several hundred of its students from the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board area, has reported roll growth to 1760 students, a record total number across all age groups. It had standout success in the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma programme, which 60 per cent of its students take. Kunli Zhang, achieved the perfect IB score of 45, placing him in the top 0.3 per cent of candidates worldwide. Judy Chen and Jessica Liu followed on 44 out of a possible 45 points, among 18 Kristin students scoring at least 40 points.

The school had an overall NCEA pass rate of 96 per cent, said principal Mark Wilson. "We're really delighted to see how well their grades have held up."

Westlake Girls principal Jane Stanley said its provisional NCEA results contained



All-weather action... Kristin School's planned Lightbox multi-sport building, shown in an artist's impression, will open this year

Roll growth spurs building activity

A large multi-sport venue being built at Kristin School is one of several major developments under way at North Shore schools.

The "Lightbox", due to be completed mid-year, is a weather-proof plastic shell that will be used for netball, basketball, tennis and other sports. Covering the equivalent of three netball courts, plus room for spectators, the facility is being built on existing courts to provide welcome covered space.

At Westlake Boys High School enhanced sporting facilities are also in the offing, with a new multi-sport turf area expected to be finished in early March.

New classrooms for language students in what will be known as the Lou Borok Language Block will open soon after the start of the school year.

The school's auditorium will be called the Peter Rea Auditorium, honouring another long-serving staff member, who, like Borok, left at the end of 2020.

At Westlake Girls High School work is progressing on the Events Centre, which it is hoped will have an official opening in June.

Building work continues at Rosmini College on a new classroom block started last year. This will allow the school to consider extending its roll for 2022.

more Excellence credits at every level than in 2019. Pass rates were: Level 1 (Year 11), 94.4%; Level 2 (Year 12), 96.1% and Level 3 (Year 13) 96.1%. The University Entrance result was 88.9%. "We are particularly delighted with the way our students adapted to remote learning last year," she said.

Rosmini said its results had nudged slightly up on recent years, partly reflecting the benefit of extra learning recognition credits granted all students for 2020. "I would like

to commend the boys on their calm approach throughout the year despite the disruptions," said the headmaster Nixon Cooper.

Carmel College principal Christine Allen said its provisional NCEA results were "a couple of per cent either way but, when we have had pass rates from 96 per cent to 99 per cent for several years, it is hard to improve on."

Figures for Westlake Boys were not supplied prior to the Observer going to press.

New Years, New Ears!

Hearing Testing

Hearing Aids & Repairs

Tinnitus Support

Custom Earplugs

100% Locally Owned



Call 09 475 9849
teresaburnshearing.co.nz

215 Wairau Road, Glenfield
Fortnightly Clinic: 2 Fleet Street, Devonport





Congratulations Class of 2020!

For academic excellence in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma and NCEA

From left: Victoria Deschamps, Kunli Zhang, Jessica Liu and Will Smith.



YEAR 11-13
Limited Places
AVAILABLE FOR 2021

2020 results are out and once again, we couldn't be prouder of our students' achievements.

Featured above, Kunli Zhang achieved a perfect IB Diploma score of 45 out of 45, placing him quite literally among the top candidates in the world. Jessica Liu followed closely on 44, and Victoria Deschamps, along with five other Kristin students, all achieved a score of 43 or above. Will Smith was our 2020 NCEA Dux and achieved Level 3 with Excellence.

27% of our IB Diploma candidates gained scores of 40+, qualifying them as NZ IB Top Scholars.

96% of Kristin's NCEA Level 2 and 3 students passed, with 65% endorsed with Merit or Excellence.

To take a tour or apply, visit www.kristin.school.nz or call 09 415 9566.



Kristin
 FUTURE READY

Big expansion coming for North Shore Hospital

A contractor has been appointed for the biggest expansion at North Shore Hospital since its main tower block was built in the 1980s. Hawkins Construction will build a four-storey extension due for completion in 2023.

The new building will increase inpatient capacity and be joined to the main block by a sky bridge. It will be known as Totara Haumarū.

Waitemata District Health Board chief executive Dr Dale Bramley said the development would enable the DHB to better meet future health needs.

“When the facility opens in a couple of years, we will see a much-needed increase to inpatient capacity to help keep pace with the growing demands of the rapidly growing community it serves.”

The facility will add 150 more beds to the hospital, plus eight state-of-the-art theatres, new endoscopy suites for colonoscopy and gastroscopy procedures. Its design is aimed at being whānau-friendly and welcoming to patients and visitors.

Site clearance for the building will be completed within a few months, with foundations to be laid towards the end of next year.

Waitemata DHB, the largest in the country with 650,000 people in its catchment, is currently undergoing upgrades



Bigger and better... The new hospital building will add 150 more beds plus theatres and endoscopy suites

costing close to \$500 million to services and facilities across its area, which takes in north and west Auckland.

The population within it is expected to grow to more than 800,000 people by 2036.

Other improvements at North Shore

Hospital will include a new diagnostic breast service and a new sterile-services department.

Dr Bramley said Hawkins was chosen for the build, as one of the few companies in the nation able to undertake such a large project.



SUMMER TOP UP TRIO



Summer's in full swing now, so it's time to freshen up your look...

Our Summer Top Up Trio will do just that and it includes

- ☑ An ULTRACEUTICALS bespoke mini facial to rehydrate, replenish and provide a gorgeous glow.
- ☑ An EYE TRIO or DUO for a “wake up with make up” look and to finish
- ☑ TOE NAIL file, buff and paint...

3 easy steps for a TOP to TOE refresh – \$109

Call now to book 486 6880 or email info@levisage.co.nz



Level 1 | 161 Kitchener Road | Milford

Summertime is fun time at Takapuna Beach



Hoop dreams... Cherry the Clown gets the crowds going with a hula-hoop contest

The Takapuna Summer Days Festival kicked off last month with a sandcastle contest on the beach, which attracted more than 500 people to the Takapuna Beach Reserve. Other activities included entertainment from a clown and musicians playing into the early evening.



Reporter wanted North Shore

Mid-grade reporter sought for our fortnightly papers: The Rangitoto Observer and The Devonport Flagstaff. Immediate start.

General news, sports, council and feature writing.

Photography skills needed.

Could suit someone returning to work or wanting to move to Auckland.

Living in Takapuna/Milford an advantage. Work with a fun team with more than 100 years collective experience.

Our reporters have won numerous Voyager and community newspaper awards over two decades.

Send CV to Rob Drent:
rob@devonportflagstaff.co.nz



Digging it... Dylan Brunton (8) created a sand version of the Erebor mountain from *The Lord of the Rings*



Stick to it...Takapuna four-year-old Arden and dad Ben Westgate try one of the games on offer



Dad time... Harry and Stella with their father Will McFarlane



Big game... (from left) Abdallah Shalaby, Aarib Hussain, Abdelrahman Shalaby and Omar Salah team up for a game of noughts and crosses



Hold on... Jaime Carroll (11) takes on the Hang Challenge



Tasty options... Austin Yang and Mikayla Hou enjoying real fruit ice cream and Hungarian fried bread

No quick solution for Pupuke's poor water quality

Reversing the poor quality of Lake Pupuke is no easy fix, says Auckland Council's Environment Committee chair and North Shore councillor, Richard Hills.

The lake's eco-system is out of kilter and "it's very hard to flip that balance", he says.

Natural, rather than artificial causes such as broken sewerage pipes, were the problem, he told the Observer.

His comments follow the state of the lake being rated "poor" by the Land, Air, Water Aotearoa (LAWA) agency in a report issued last year on assessing lakes across the country. Just 24 of the 124 lakes monitored were rated in good health.

Hills said Lake Pupuke was safe for water-based activities. "It's still safe to swim in the lake, as none of the algal blooms are toxic," he said.

The council's Healthy Waters arm which routinely monitors Lake Pupuke would be looking at its issues again over the next few months, he said.

The problems were complex and exacerbated by the warming climate. Lake murkiness might worsen.

Hills said that with the 1000ha Lake Pupuke being a very deep lake, water separation occurred, creating a cycle where colder waters sat in the lower layers, below increasingly warmer water.

The lower levels did not get enough oxygen, leading to phosphorus rising.

"Because it's a natural process it's hard to reverse," he said.

"A lake of that size, it's one of those things that may be trying to change it itself."

Fixes such as bubbler machines had been

considered, but these did not work at depth.

Other areas of attention for Healthy Waters were the impacts of introduced species, fish and plants, all of which were not easy to deal with.

"We want to know if moving swans or fish might be a help." Accordingly Healthy Waters worked with the Department of Conservation and with Fish and Game.

Meanwhile, community groups are involved in weed management efforts around the lake reserves.



Anne Maree Court

Rest Home & Hospital

Become part of the Anne Maree Court family - with rooms now available

COVID SAFE CARE

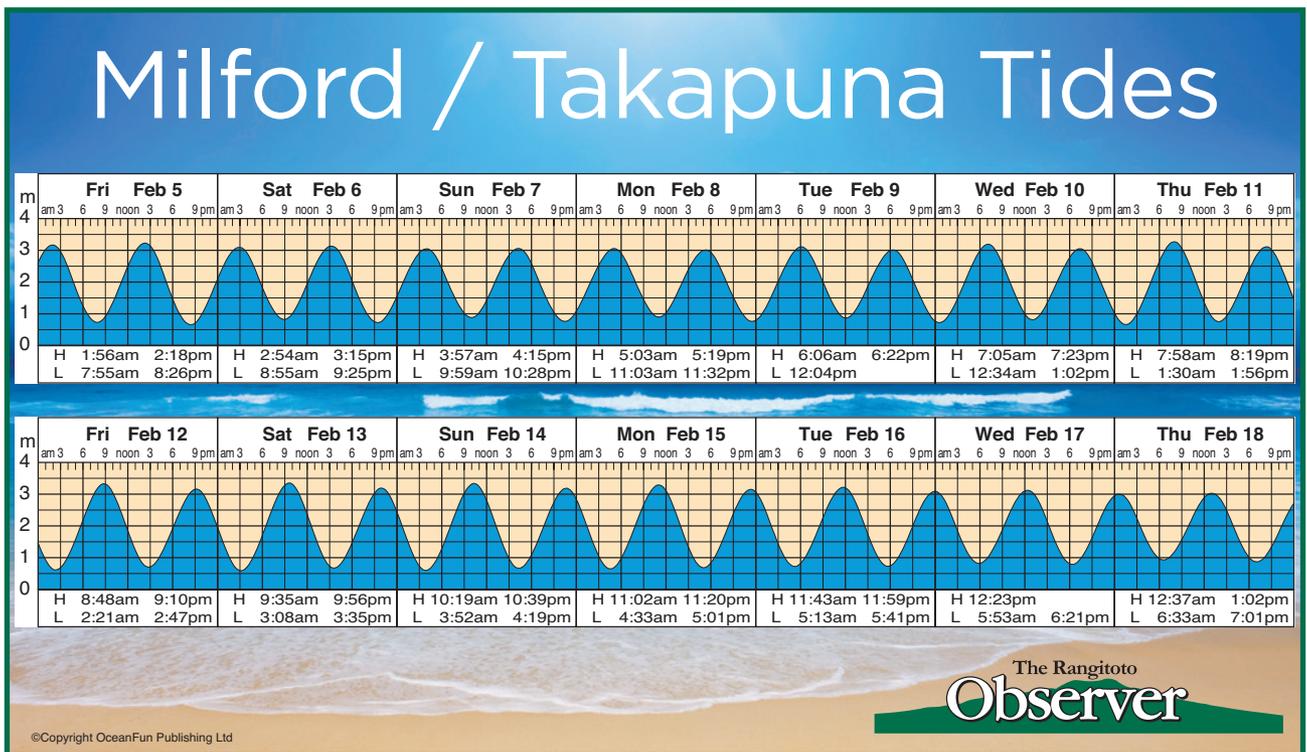
17 Fraser Avenue, Northcote
 Ph: 09 418 3118 | Manager: Jo Lochery
amc.manager@annemaree.co.nz
www.annemareeresthome.co.nz



Local Glazing Services including:

- Mirrors
- Hush Glass
- Glass
- Reputties
- Broken Windows
- Low E Thermal
- Safety Glass
- Showers

CONTACT US AT
devonportglass@gmail.com
 or 021 148 1804



Festival has environmental focus

The Waterbourne Beach Festival opening at Takapuna Beach Reserve later this month aims to be a “carbon positive” event, says organiser Laurence Carey.

Running from 27 February to 21 March, the festival features three beach clean-ups with Oceanbridge Ltd, along with a mixture of free and ticketed music events, a fun run, and a range of water-sports and other activities

The clean-ups will cover Takapuna, Milford and Narrow Neck Beaches, with a special focus on areas around the Wairau Estuary.

Carey, the founder of the Waterbourne charitable trust, has a focus on promoting watersports and cleaning up our oceans.

“I have had a passion for the ocean since I was a kid, and after travelling I felt a need to ensure future generations can enjoy the water safely,” he says.

He has partnered with Water Safety NZ, Kaipatiki Project and the Blue Carbon Project.

Both projects aim to clean up coastlines and regenerate them by planting trees and re-building natural defences to climate change.

“Water activities and entertainment around Takapuna are always a great drawcard for visitors,” says Takapuna Beach Business Association chief executive Terence Harpur.

He says keeping the beach clean and attractive is a high priority.

“The event will be a fantastic showcase and experience for visitors and residents during the America’s Cup.”

Harpur says the event will maximise the use of the large beachside reserve and the beach itself, as well as the town centre, with its 700-plus businesses and more than 4200 public car parks.

The festival’s fun run on 7 March will be held between Takapuna and Narrow Neck, with three distances (2km, 4km and 8km) to choose from.

For every entrant, Waterbourne will donate \$5 towards regenerating New Zealand’s coastline.

News Briefs

Extra Covid testing

An extra testing centre at North Harbour Stadium opened in the wake of the Covid-19 community outbreak associated with three people leaving isolation at the Pullman Hotel has now closed. Demand for the Albany centre had dropped off. The existing one in College Rd, Northcote, run by the Northern Regional Health Co-ordination Centre, remains open. A number of urgent clinics and GPs can also do free tests. Many clinics prefer this to be arranged by a phone call first, so staff can be safely set up to administer the tests.

New beginnings

Lunar New Year will be celebrated in Takapuna next Saturday 13 February, with Chinese cultural performances, a dragon dance, activities and food stalls.. The Year of the Ox event centres around the public space at 38 Hurstmere Rd and runs from 3pm to 6pm. It is organised by the Takapuna North Community Trust and the Takapuna Beach Business Association, supported by the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board and Panuku.

Waka ama outing

The Takapuna Beach Cup will be the prize at a three-day outrigger canoe festival that begins on Friday 19 February. Top waka ama teams will compete over the weekend, along with juniors and novices held close to shore. Feature events will be a 42km marathon race around Rangitoto, Motutapu and Rakino Islands and relay events in one-and two-man canoes.

Corporates take on reserve work

Corporate volunteers have signed up for restoration and predator control at the Patuone Reserve in Takapuna, as part of the Pupuke Birdsong Project.

The reserve has had a rat infestation near a shorebird nesting site.

So far the project has two companies

providing corporate volunteers: Reckitt Benckiser with 60 volunteer days a year and Oceanbridge Shipping Ltd.

Other reserves also need volunteers. Email enviro@takapunatrust.org.nz to express your interest in getting involved in the project.

Boaties face new pest approach

Boaties will have to clean-up their act under rules introduced in Auckland’s Regional Pest Management Plan, which became operative last week.

They are being asked to check boat hulls, gear and equipment are free of pests before moving to new locations.

The new rules require there to be no more than a slime layer and barnacles on the hull.

Once established, marine pests are notoriously difficult to control.

Education will be Auckland Council’s initial thrust, to ensure boat owners, especially those moving their craft into new areas, understand their new obligations to protect native species and the environment.

Compliance will take a risk-based approach, focusing particularly on boats that are moving to new sites, especially the outer gulf islands, west coast and other areas that are currently relatively free from marine pests.



Under 2’s Teacher

Bayview Early Learning Centre

We are licensed for 35 children and require a full-time role, 40 hours per week, focused in our U2’s Teacher.

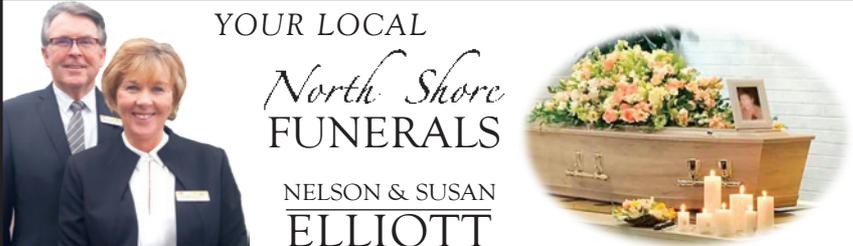
Our centre is on the lookout for an exceptional, fully or provisionally registered teacher to join our close-knit under 2’s team. We are a community run centre nestled in the gloriously lush little suburb of Bayview Glenfield, Auckland.

Contact manager@bayviewcentre.org.nz

YOUR LOCAL

North Shore FUNERALS

NELSON & SUSAN ELLIOTT



Husband and Wife team caring for families for over 40 years

Church & Chapel Funerals, Direct Cremations, call anytime

157 Shakespeare Rd Milford 09 486 2631 . 027 486 2050

www.northshorefunerals.co.nz



KINGDOM
DECORATORS

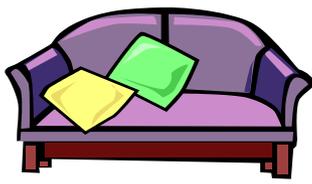
**WE GUARANTEE
OUR WORKMANSHIP**

Backed by over 35 years' experience of quality preparation and painting

Ph Ross Kingdom
021 723 413

**REGISTERED
PROFESSIONAL PAINTERS**

**RECOVER YOUR
LOUNGE SUITE**



Call us for a free quotation and put the life back into that favourite chair or lounge suite

AWARD FURNITURE

Phone COLIN on 480 5864

RENE GARDENING

We look after your garden with care and passion.

FREE QUOTES

**SMALL & MEDIUM TREES
HEDGES & SHRUBS
PRUNING - TRIMMING
GARDEN TIDY UPS
& MAINTENANCE**

Rene: **021 134 5604**

info@renegardening.co.nz

Find us on  facebook.com/ReneGardening

 @renegardening



EYE FOR DETAIL

North Shore based renovations, new builds, design & project management since 1985.

Trustworthy licensed builders specialising in residential alterations/extensions, kitchens, bathrooms, tiling, re-cladding.

Contact Alex Carey on 0274 660 666, or visit our website www.efd.kiwi



RELAY
ROOFING
metal roofing, replacement and restoration

"YOUR LOCAL ROOFER"

0800 7663 92

- RE-ROOFS
- NEW ROOFS
- LEAKS
- SPOUTING

www.relayroofing.co.nz



THE ORIGINAL
FENCE BROS.
QUALITY LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

FENCE BROTHERS

- FENCES
- PERGOLAS
- DECKS
- PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
- RETAINING WALLS

www.fencebros.co.nz

CONTACT GREG FOR A FREE QUOTE

0800 336 232



**Natural Health Sales Consultant
- Devonport 7 Days Pharmacy**

A great opportunity for a Natural Health Consultant to join our team by providing general customer service sales and offering a caring and supportive nature to our clients. Our objective is to maximise sales of all natural health products. Achieve the specific targets as set by pharmacy management team and ensure all natural health customers receive professional advice.

Apply via www.shorejobs.co.nz



Tony Gasperini
Qualified Local Arborist

Tree & Tall Hedge Specialist

027 770-0099

Devonport, Auckland
tonygasperini@gmail.com



0800 800 286

Professional | Friendly | Helpful

LAWN & GARDEN SERVICES

FREE & FAST Quotes

Residential & Commercial

30 Years Industry Experience

- LAWN MOWING • GARDENING
- PRUNING • HEDGES • TRIMMING
- WEEDING • SECTION TIDIES

www.crewcut.co.nz

CARS WANTED

- Cars • Vans
- 4x4s • Utes • Trucks

24/7

CASH PAID 

0800 203 060

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES OFFERED	TUITION
A1 Handyman - excellent work, practical budget, most jobs welcome, interior/exterior free quote. Josh 021 261 8322.	Belmont Music Centre Inc - Enrol Now for 2021. Only \$150 for the year. Age 6 yrs to Year 8 children. Orchestra/band plus instrument tuition. Hire instruments avail. info@belmontmusic.org.nz , www.belmontmusic.org.nz
'Mastering Art Retreat' Kerikeri, Northland. Book now for the first weekend workshop - Life Drawing. March 27th & 28th www.lucybucknall.com tel - 021 144 2791.	Maths Coaching Offered. Year 7 to year 13 welcomed. 100% student pass rate in 2019 ph Peter BE, Dip Tchg on 09 445 1899 or 021 0817 5037.
	WANTED
	Cars Wanted. Cars Vans 4x4s Utes Trucks 24/7 Cash paid 0800 203 060.



HANDYMAN

Your local handyman in Devonport

021 1968 908

vikinghandyman@yahoo.com
www.vikinghandyman.co.nz

Kids have a holiday blast at Sunnynook Park

A new holiday sports programme at Sunnynook Park was a hit with its young participants and looks set to be repeated in the first-term school break.

Glenfield Greyhounds Rugby League hosted two days of activities in their clubrooms and on the fields, bringing around 30 children together last week.

Eleven-year-old Aaliyah Te Are said she really enjoyed the Holiday Blast programme, developed by Auckland Rugby League (ARL).

“It’s fun and I’ve really enjoyed how sporty it is, especially when we play Kiwi Tag,” said the under-10 club player. “It’s not just for rugby league players, there are some people from other sports and some who don’t play sport at all normally.”

Making friends was a bonus, said Te Are, who added: “I would definitely come back!”

It looks like she will get the chance. Greyhounds president Simon Watson said that after a review the club would likely pick up full responsibility from ARL for running the next programme. He hoped this would be held in April, using volunteers. “From my perspective it’s about helping out our parents... it’s two days where the kids are active outdoors and it’s cost effective.”

Improvement to Sunnynook Park meant running such events had been made easier. “Now that we have these facilities on our doorstep it’s time for us to reach out to the community and extend our footprint,” he said.



Game on... Tommy Ika (left) and Devante Valaau enjoy some Kiwi Tag play during a new sports-based school holiday programme at Sunnynook Park

ENROL NOW FOR 2021

Children at the Centre of Angels Childcare

Angels Childcare Centre is a family-run Christian preschool with over 20 years’ experience. It has operated in the heart of Takapuna since 2010, firmly establishing it at the centre of the local community. The centre prides itself on providing an intimate, homely haven with beautiful natural outdoor playscapes and imaginative, age-appropriate indoor environments for your preschool littlies to explore and enjoy. Angels Childcare Centre captures the true essence of love by offering honest, reliable care, and creates a safe and secure environment that families can trust. The children are nurtured and loved as well as being provided with every opportunity to explore their capabilities and extend their self-confidence, knowledge and learning. Angels Childcare Takapuna provides a respectful, loving and nurturing home away from home for the children and families of Takapuna and the wider North Shore community. It takes great pride in its holistic approach and warm hospitality and looks forward to welcoming you to the Angels Childcare family.



“Love is patient, love is kind... it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

1 CORINTHIANS 13



“Carefully loving your little angel as they learn and grow”

31 Anzac Street
Takapuna, Auckland
Ph 09 486 4695 | M 021 526 435
angelstaka@angelschildcare.co.nz

0-6 years open: 7am close: 6.00pm Takapuna

OPENING HOURS 7AM-6PM Contact Angels Childcare today to arrange a free visit of our centre – they’ll be delighted to show you around!

RYMAN
PIONEERS
Care

CARE OPEN DAY

Sunday 14 February
10am-3pm

Presentation at 11am



"I don't have to worry"
John, a Ryman resident

MAKE A VISIT TO NURTURE A CONVERSATION

Getting together with loved ones can lead us to notice changes in their needs, especially if there has been some time between visits. Starting a conversation about care isn't always easy, but like many things, sometimes you just need to take the first step.

To help nurture those conversations, we invite you to see inside your local Ryman Care Centre on Sunday 14 February. A tour will give you first-hand experience of our village community and how we are pioneering care. Our care options include the extra support of a serviced apartment, resthome, hospital and specialist dementia care.



With beautiful vast grounds, luxurious amenities, state-of-the-art care facilities and a friendly community, William Sanders Village offers you superior retirement living.

To find out more call 445 0900

WILLIAM SANDERS VILLAGE

7 Ngataranga Road, Devonport

rymanhealthcare.co.nz



Shore athletes enjoy success at major summer meets

Two national records were set by local senior competitors at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Track and Field Championships, with a junior athlete snaring an impressive track double at another big meeting.

Westlake Girls High School graduate and 2020 Senior Sportswoman of the Year Kaia Tupu South, set a senior shot put record of 17.54m at the championships in Tauranga in December.

Rosmini College student Jayden Williamson's personal best high jump of 2.11m matched a national secondary record that has stood since 1993.

Kaia has since gone on to finish third behind Olympic champion Dame Valerie Adams at a meeting in Christchurch.

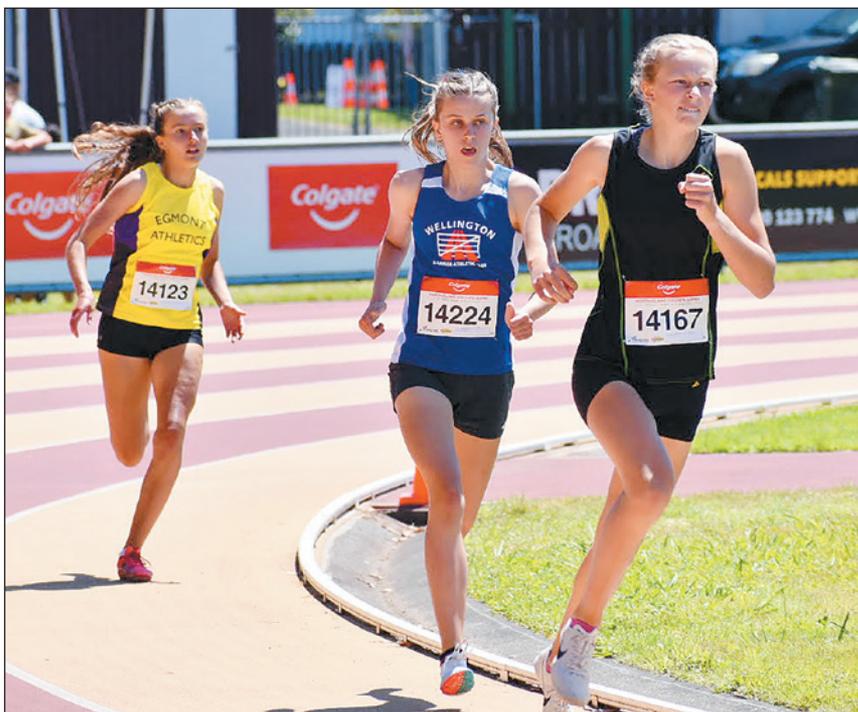
At the secondary champs she won on her fifth attempt with a 3kg shot put, breaking the previous record of 17.02. Kaia also won the discuss, throwing 48.46m.

The 2020 Westlake head prefect was also named Female Senior Athlete of the championships. "It was a really great start of the season for me, she said. "I'm really happy and excited. I was nervous at first but I knew I could throw that far."

Kaia is set to compete in the national track and field championships on 5 March. This will be her last New Zealand competition before she leaves to study on an athletics scholarship to the University of Washington in Seattle.

She told the Observer she would miss her coach, Walter Gill, at the Takapuna Athletics Club.

Kate Borton, a 14-year-old who attends



Eyes on the prize... Westlake Girls student Kate Borton powers ahead of rivals at the Colgate Games in January winning two golds

Westlake Girls High School, won gold in the 400m and 800m races in the North Island Colgate Games in Inglewood last month.

The North Harbour Bays club member won the 800m race in a time of 2 minutes and 23 seconds and the 400m in just under 58s.

"I really enjoy running and I would love to represent New Zealand one day," Kate said.

She began competing at the age of nine and attended her first Colgate Games at 10.

Borton said she preferred 400m and 800m, "but I also want to compete in the 200m and 1500m races next time."

Local cricket rivals both in the mix as derby looms

A local derby between Takapuna and North Shore cricket clubs in the Tom Helaby Cup two-day premier competition could be the pivotal match of the season.

The top-grade of Auckland Cricket has three matches left in the cup with Takapuna in second place, behind Suburbs, and North Shore in fourth place. But such are the

vagaries of cricket both are still in with a chance of winning the competition.

The match takes place at Devonport Domain on two coming Saturdays, 20 February and 27 February.

Takapuna coach Craig Cachopa said a match with North Shore always had "a little more on it".

"North Shore is a proud club and always has strong sides, which are well coached."

"We love playing other local clubs," he said.

Takapuna had had a great start to the season, with its top players scoring hundreds and taking wickets to maximise points, he said.

ONE OF THE TOP 10 MUST VISIT WINERIES IN THE WORLD
THE GUARDIAN

OPEN FOR LUNCH, WINE TASTINGS, & EVENTS EVERY DAY FROM 11.30 AM

WWW.STONYRIDGE.COM
09 372 8822

Driving Miss Daisy Milford

Companion driving covering Milford / Takapuna

- Medical Appointments
- Hairdresser / Shopping
- Airport / rail / bus transfers
- Pets to the vet
- ACC contracted supplier
- * Pre-bookings essential

Driving Miss Daisy®
We're There For You

Corlize Britz (09) 551 3050 | 021 503 575



Choir brings new material to the PumpHouse



In fine voice... Karen Rutherford (left) and Jean McAllister performing with Jubilation

Auckland's Jubilation choir is hitting the PumpHouse theatre later this month, performing new contemporary music alongside some of their traditional gospel material.

The acapella group is presenting a new show called *The Word Is Love*, aiming to change direction having last year celebrated a milestone of 20 years in operation.

The choir, which has previously sold out the PumpHouse, will have some very different new numbers for the audience to enjoy during a 75-minute set.

Milford resident and long-time choir member Karen Rutherford says the audience can look forward to songs that soothe and others that will make them jump up and clap their hands.

Rutherford's favourite song of the performance is a "meltingly gorgeous" version of a Prince song arranged by soprano and conductor Jean McAllister.

"I love the buzz that comes from performing gospel and soul music," says Rutherford. "We bring lots of energy to the stage and I love seeing the audience's reaction."

She says it will be a treat to perform at the PumpHouse and "on this side of the bridge".

The choir's repertoire ranges from songs by the Beatles to numbers by founding member McAllister and acclaimed Kiwi blues and rock singer the late Rick Bryant alongside old gospel favourites by the likes of Blind Willie Johnson and Thomas A Dorsey.

"For people that have never seen a choir performance, it is a rollicking good time," says Rutherford.

For most in this urban vocal collective, singing is not a day job, it's a labour of love.

But there are also performing artists in Jubilation's ranks, embracing the chance to branch out and work a different artistic muscle.

Audiences get the chance to hear leading actress Jennifer Ward-Lealand let loose in a gospel quartet, and actor/writer Fiona Samuel MNZM melt hearts on the traditional folk song *Poor Wayfaring Stranger*. Entertainer Jackie Clarke is another 'name' in the line-up.

This group's coming concerts are particularly special for the group as a founder, Bryant, as well as long-standing soloist Pete Kirkbride, passed away within a week of each other in December 2019.

Both men told Jubilation they wanted to see the choir continue and thrive, but when

Covid hit, performing arts came to a halt.

The choir performs at the PumpHouse on 28 February from 7pm.

Tickets are online at pumphouse.co.nz (adults \$28, concession \$23, groups of more than four \$23 each, booking fee of \$5.00).

What's On

Auckland Shakespeare in the Park

23 January-20 February

Hamlet and Much Ado About Nothing performed on alternate nights in the Outdoor Amphitheatre.

Auckland Fringe at the PumpHouse

22 February - 6 March

There's something for everyone this Fringe Festival - from clowns to improv to gospel choirs! See our website for further details www.pumphouse.co.nz

Lake Leisure

27 February, 1pm

A mini music festival in the Outdoor Amphitheatre!



The PumpHouse
Theatre

PH: 489 8360
PUMPHOUSE.CO.NZ



Visual poetry makes for multi-dimensional show

An innovative exhibition bringing poetry to life is being held at the Angela Morton room at Takapuna Library this month.

Abstract gouache works and pen and ink pieces of “visual poetry” by Rachael Naomi are on display, with the Auckland artist hosting a public evening event in mid-February that includes readings.

Joining her will be noted North Shore poet Elizabeth Morton. Morton recently brought out a new collection of poetry called *This Is Your Real Life*.

Several other poets will also read their work, including Michael Stevens and Makyla Curtis, who will also feature in the Auckland Writers’ Festival in May.

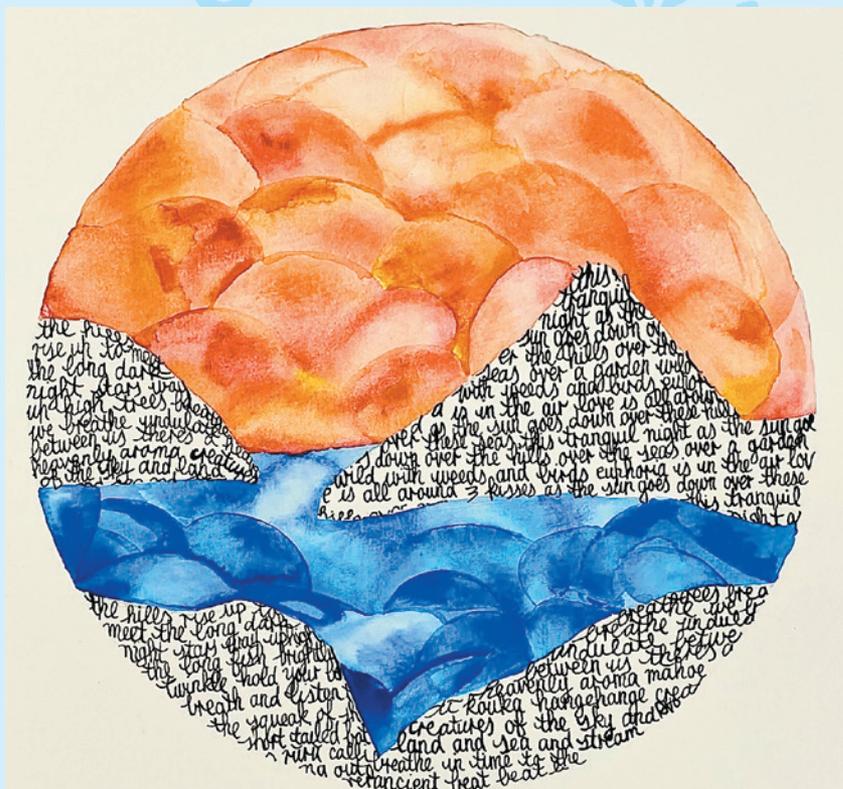
Some of Naomi’s visual poetry in the *Unity* exhibition references well-known New Zealand artists and combines an interpretation of their forms with her words. The poet was inspired by Colin McCahon’s text painting and over time her use of words grew to incorporate imagery too. Bill Hammond is another artist whose style she has referenced.

The idea is that the works need to be both seen and read.

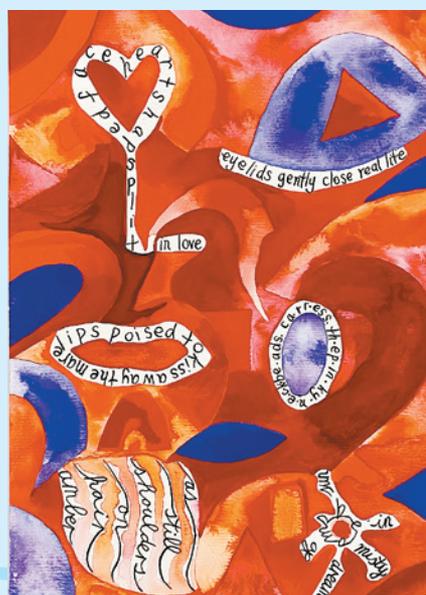
In some of the pieces on show, lines of poetry are arranged in a way that transforms them into a picture and in others her words are integrated into the imagery. A play on a Picasso artwork features among the pieces.

The free evening event is on 17 February, with refreshments from 6pm and an hour of readings from 6.30pm.

Those wishing to attend are asked to RSVP so organisers have an idea of numbers. Email angelamorton.room@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



This Tranquil Night is one of the pieces in Rachael Naomi’s visual poetry exhibition



Inspired by a master... After Picasso’s Dream, a poetic interpretation by Rachael Naomi

VICTORIA THEATRE DEVONPORT









NOW SHOWING

Earwig and The Witch (PG) 83min	NEW
High Ground (R16) 105min	NEW
The Nest (R13) 107min	NEW
Shadow in the Cloud (R13) 83min	NEW
Another Round (M) 116min	NEW
Maverick Modigliani (E) 98min	NEW
Music (M) 107min	NEW
Pixie (R16) 93min	NEW
Summerland (PG) 100min	NEW
Ammonite (R16) 118min	PREVIEW SCREENINGS 5-7 FEB

COMING SOON

Ammonite (R16) 118min	11 FEB
Minari (PG) 115min	11 FEB
Never Too Late (M) 98min	18 FEB

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

VENUE HIRE




PREVIEW SCREENINGS

48 Victoria Road | (09) 446 0100 | www.thevic.co.nz

PREMIUM[®]

DAIRY FLAT | 62 GRACE HILL DRIVE | ESCAPE THE CITY SPECTACULAR FAMILY RETREAT



Escape city living and still be close to Albany on this manicured 2.99ha property situated within the desirable Grace Hill Country Estate on a quiet no exit road. The 490sqm home features 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, multiple living areas. Those who like to entertain will enjoy showing off the cabana with outdoor fireplace and pizza oven overlooking the pool.

VIEW | PLEASE CONTACT AGENT

PRICE | BY NEGOTIATION

[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/80060](https://premium.co.nz/80060)

JELENA FREEMAN 021 65 65 63 | 916 6000

JIM MAYS 021 937 766 | 916 6000

TAKAPUNA | 12A PARK AVENUE | LINDY LEUSCHKE | ARCHITECTURAL RESIDENCE



Set on an elevated sunny 605sqm freehold title only moments from Takapuna Beach. Situated one back from Park Ave behind a motorised gate the property is private, peaceful and secure. Featuring 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (incl ensuite), 2 living areas, solar heated swimming pool, generous decking areas, undercover patio with outdoor heaters and Louver-Tec roof.

VIEW | PLEASE CONTACT AGENT

PRICE | BY NEGOTIATION

[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/80050](https://premium.co.nz/80050)

ROBERT MILNE 022 0112 494 | 916 6000

RICHARD MILNE 021 770 611 | 916 6000

TAKAPUNA | 308/8A LAKE PUPUKE DRIVE | BEAUTIFUL BESPOKE APARTMENT



Spacious apartment in the popular Willis Bond development of 8 Lake Pupuke Drive. Modern open plan kitchen/dining/lounge with adjacent media room/study, and designer kitchen lead out onto a sun soaked deck. Large master bedroom includes en-suite and superb fitted wardrobe. Easy motorway access and top school zones. Two parallel carparks and storage.

VIEW | PLEASE CONTACT AGENT

PRICE | \$1.495M

[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/9981](https://premium.co.nz/9981)

ALISON PARKER 021 983 533 | 916 6000

SONIA HEMS 021 0246 144 | 916 6000

PREMIUM EXECUTIVE RENTALS & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Executive and Corporate Properties | Family Homes | Apartments | Townhouses
From Devonport to Matakana

WE HAVE CLIENTS LOOKING FOR RENTAL PROPERTIES NOW!

Anna Griffin 021 664 760 | DDI 916 4212

ExecutiveRentals@premium.co.nz



premium.co.nz | Fine Homes | Fine Apartments | Fine Lifestyles

PREMIUM REAL ESTATE LTD LICENSED REA 2008 | 916 6000