

The Rangitoto Observer

Takapuna, Milford, Castor Bay, Forrest Hill and Sunnynook

DELIVERED FORTNIGHTLY Issue 85 - July 8, 2022 AN INDEPENDENT VOICE



Competition heats up for local board seats... p2

Takapuna Bowls Club duo head for Birmingham... p3

Winter Lights Festival set to dazzle... p22

Sunnynook misses out in policing shake-up

Sunnynook is losing its locally based community constable in a police restructure that will also see the Browns Bay station become the base for officers serving Takapuna and Devonport.

Though police say more staff are being committed to the North Shore and Kaipatiki community teams, the move out of Sunnynook

– at a time of heightened concern about crime – has blindsided locals who community leaders say feel safer with an officer around to keep an eye on things.

“Police have kept it pretty quiet,” said the Sunnynook community centre manager, Bronwyn Bound, who was upset there would no

longer be someone on site.

Although happy a replacement for well-known Sunnynook-based Constable Penny Rusbatch has been appointed, Community Association chair Mel Powell said Rusbatch would be missed. “She’s really connected in the community.”

To page 5

Brrr-ave souls make a midwinter splash



It’s his fault... Organiser Andrew Parker was delighted with the turnout for a midwinter swim at Castor Bay on one of the coldest mornings of the year. Story, more pictures, pages 18-19.

Devonport
☎ 09 242 0866
Birkenhead
☎ 09 480 5676
Grey Lynn
☎ 09 361 3838
Mission Bay
☎ 09 242 1466

We aim to provide 5 star service to every client.



4.9 out of 5 from 221 Google reviews.



Earwax removal | Audiology | Hearing tests | Hearing aids

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 under 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 Observer.

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 Observer 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 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.

Covid crosses from visitors to wards

Visitors to North Shore Hospital have spread Covid-19 to patients, the Ministry of Health says.

Contact tracing showed at least five cases of the virus had "very likely" been passed on, elaborated a spokesperson for the Waitemata branch of the new national health body. "This has created a scenario in which patients have then transmitted the virus on to other patients in their room or ward." Patient visitors who were sick should stay away from the hospital, the spokesperson said. All visitors needed to wear masks. The virus was still circulating widely in the community, the spokesperson said.

Schools have had a torrid time dealing with

sickness among staff and students, with many counting down to the end of term this week,

The hospital has rules on visitor numbers, by department. No visitors are allowed in day-stay haematology, surgical or medical areas. Other visitors will be asked questions on arrival to ensure visits ran smoothly and safely.

As of Monday, 114 people with Covid were in hospital across the wider Waitemata district. In total, 145,142 cases have recovered and 162 people have died.

Meanwhile, Carmel College switched to online-only learning from Tuesday to Friday this week, as it was "no longer able to staff classes", the school said.

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
CHIEF REPORTER: Janetta Mackay
SENIOR REPORTER: Christina Persico

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

NEXT ISSUE: July 22
ADVERTISING DEADLINE: July 15

Takapuna bowls duo bound for Games in Birmingham

Two members of the Takapuna Bowling Club are off to represent New Zealand at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

Selina Goddard will compete in the women's pair and women's four, and Graham Skellern in the men's B5-B8 para pair, a class for bowlers with physical disabilities.

"I'm really excited, really honoured to have the opportunity," says Goddard, who also played in the Glasgow games in 2014, winning bronze in the fours. "I just feel like years of hard work [has been] leading up to it."

Skellern has been to the Games several times as a journalist, but this is his first time as a competitor. He's keeping his excitement contained "because I want to be well-prepared and ready to go". He says the competitiveness keeps him interested in bowls at age 70.

"It's more competitive than people may appreciate," he says.

"For me at my age to still be able to compete at the highest level in a sport – that's what bowls gives you."

Goddard, who is still a young bowler at 27, says it is also a social sport and a hard code to master.

"I think it's a game that no one will ever be perfect at, and I think that's why we keep coming back for more. When you play a perfect bowl, the feeling is great and you just want that again and again."

Luck can be a factor, but Skellern says consistency is important.

As is adaptability, adds Goddard. "You can think about the game, you can prepare for the game, but it's only when the game starts that you really get a feel for what's going to happen," she says.

Location has a bearing on factors such as



On a roll... Takapuna Bowling Club's Selina Goddard and Graham Skellern are headed for the Commonwealth Games

green speed and the crowd. Having played in Glasgow, Goddard thinks Birmingham will be similar.

The duo have both been members of the Takapuna Bowling Club for about four years, and appreciate the support it has given them.

It's the only club in the country to be sending two players to Birmingham.

Chairman Graham Dorreen says it's the first time in its 110 years it has sent two players to the same Commonwealth Games.

"To be fair, both of them have done so much work. They deserve it."

They're also "fantastic club members", giving a lot back to the club when the high-performance programme allows, Dorreen says.

"It's a bit like a Dan Carter can't play for his club, but when there's an opportunity they're always back here."

The Commonwealth Games opening ceremony is on 28 July, with the bowls programme starting a day later.

Shore sailors eye youth worlds after German win

North Shore teen sailors George Lee Rush and Seb Menzies have enjoyed international success ahead of the Youth Sailing World Championships in Holland next week.

The duo, both aged 17, won the 29er title at the Kiel Week regatta in Germany last month, before sailing in the European championships in Copenhagen this week.

They are enjoying the chance to compete on the world stage after several seasons stuck in New Zealand due to Covid-19, though lighter winds in Denmark have been a challenge.

"It's awesome to get back into international racing," said Lee Rush, speaking to the Observer from Copenhagen.

They were looking at the European Championships as a training regatta ahead of the youth worlds in The Hague, he said.

Westlake Boys High student Lee Rush lives in Takapuna and races out of the Wakatere Boating Club. Menzies is a Rangitoto College student.

Most regattas have qualifying rounds and then finals racing, but at the worlds it is full-on competition among 30 teams from the first gun, with each country entering only one team. "It's quite a different format from usual," Lee Rush said. "It's 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. But 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



Top combo... George Lee Rush (right) and Seb Menzies racing in New Zealand prior to their European campaign

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."



Win your share of over

\$10,000

in prizes!

JUNE AND JULY



Shop & Win in Takapuna

for a chance to win a shopping spree from:



- \$5,000 Takapuna
- \$2,000 Shore City
- \$1,000 Rembrandt
- \$1,000 Takapuna
- \$1,000 Platypus

...plus more **bonus prizes!**

Simply spend \$20 in one transaction, in any participating Takapuna business to receive an entry code, then enter online to win. **Enter: ilovetakapuna.co.nz**

T's and C's apply. For more information, visit: ilovetakapuna.co.nz

Designed and printed with support from the team at **BENEFITZ**

Community police team centralised to Browns Bay

From page 1

The news was a “a bit of a blow”, said Devonport-Takapuna Local Board chair Ruth Jackson.

Sunnynook, Forrest Hill, Castor Bay, Mairangi Bay and Totaravale had all been well served by the work of Rusbatch from her office at the Sunnynook Community Centre, Jackson said.

“That community facility at Sunnynook is really a model facility for looking after people.”

By having police, Plunket and other organisations at a well-used central location, it gave easy access.

The local board has previously called for a more visible police presence across its area. Recent armed robberies in Takapuna, which followed a dairy ram raid in Sunnynook several months ago, prompted Jackson to repeat a request for more “boots on the ground”.

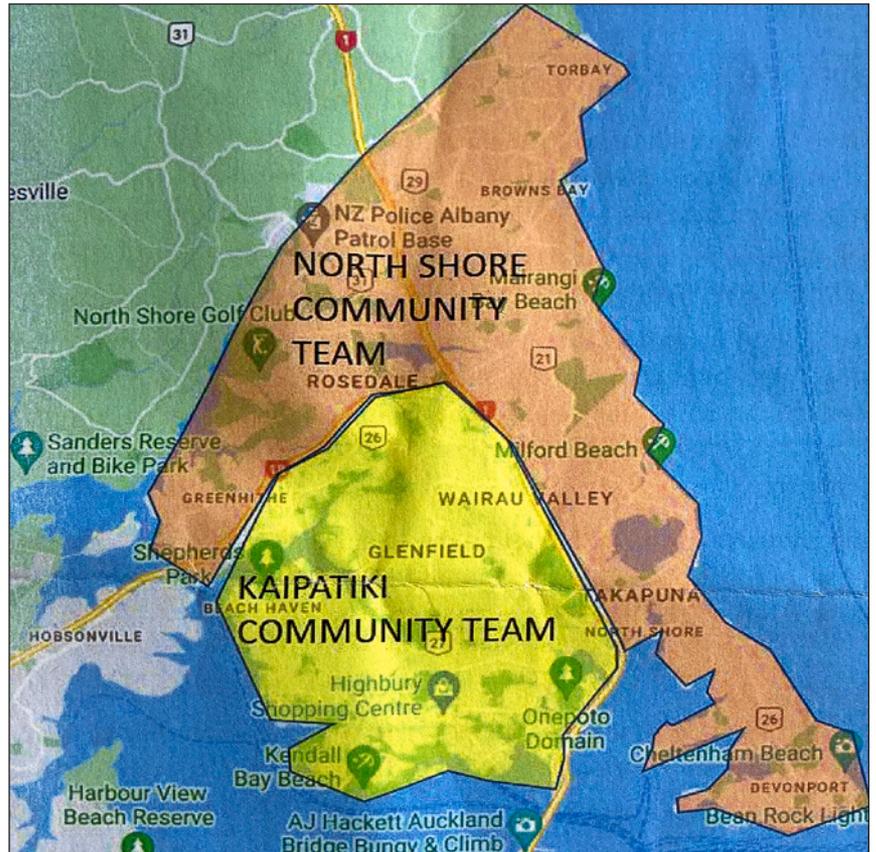
Police say the restructure of its North Shore and Kaipatiki community teams increases the total budget and will provide 20 per cent more staff resources. Each area is to have five constables and a sergeant; previously, one sergeant oversaw nine constables.

A memo and a map from the Waitemata East police leadership shows its 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 southern North Shore centres have already had their constables based out of their areas at the main North Shore station off Constellation Dr, but the relocation to Browns Bay takes them further north, and further from Sunnynook as well. It is understood that some sort of mobile service will be set up, enabling officers to set up a temporary base on suburb visits.

The police memo from June 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



Big patch... a police map showing the two North Shore areas to each be served by five constables and a sergeant

roles. “The community teams will take a problem-solving approach to crime issues which may take considerable time to resolve. However, they will remain agile to respond to emerging-crime issues,” the memo said.

Constable Brent Stewart has been named as the new Sunnynook constable. He was welcomed at the community centre this week. But the police office there is not open for visits, with people asked to phone in about crime.

Rusbatch has been transferred to other duties, although since Covid-19 struck she has already been spending much of her time out of area, along with other community constables who were assigned to MIQ facilities, road checkpoints in Northland, and protests in Wellington.

“To be really honest we haven’t seen a lot of her in the last 18 months,” said Bound.

But, over the years, she had built up a store of goodwill for police.

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.





Milford Shops

Milford Shopping Centre is the place to be for all your shopping needs! Start your day right by pampering your skin at Le Visage with their amazing facial treatments. Stay for lunch and taste Gelata Kebab and Grill's mouthwatering kebabs! Need to get your watch repaired? Milford Watch & Clock Repair can help you fix almost any type of watch or clock! Stay warm this winter with Wild and Woolly's delightful 'Cosy' scarf. Treat yourself to a delicious dinner this evening of fresh homemade pizza and Sri Lankan meals at Jazzys Cafe & Pizzeria! Time for your yearly checkup at the dentist? Head to Milford Dentists to keep your beautiful smile healthy. Want to learn more about the fantastic shops in Milford?

Scan the QR code to download our app or sign up to our newsletter at the footer of our website, so you never miss out on all things happening and businesses in Milford!

1. Jazzys Cafe & Pizzeria - Pizza **2. Galata Kebabs and Grill** - Kebabs **3. Milford Dentists** - Dental Services **4. Wild and Woolly Yarns** - Rowan Cotton Cashmere 8ply **5. LeVisage** - Facial Treatments **6. Milford Watch & Clock** - Watch and Clock repairs.



MILFORD *in the PALM of your HAND*
Download the 'Milford Information site' to your mobile phone:

Option 1:
Download the App called 'milfordinformationsite'
 Apple phones from Apple App Store
 Android phones from Google Play

Option 2:
Scan the QR code below


 @MilfordShops
 @milfordshopsnz

Rosmini supplies new Carmel head

An associate principal from Rosmini College is soon to take up the top job at its sister school, Carmel College.

Sarah Kemble, a Carmel old girl, will become principal at the beginning of term 3, which starts on 25 July.

Kemble has been teaching since about 2004, including at Massey High School, a stint in the UK, and Rangitoto College, before arriving at Rosmini six and a half years ago.

"I have always wanted to get back into Catholic education, special-character education, after going through the school system myself," she said.

"I just really enjoyed my time here at Rosmini."

Kemble says she'll be taking things as they come at Carmel, getting used to the role for the first few months.

A lot of change is happening in education – including the recent Ministry of Education announcement that mandatory NCEA literacy and numeracy standards will be delayed until next year. An ongoing teacher shortage is another challenge.

Rosmini principal Nixon Cooper said

Kemble was "a passionate educator with an excellent understanding of the New Zealand educational landscape".

Kemble has three children of her own, with the eldest starting at Rosmini next year.

Departing Carmel principal Christine Allen has had a total of 25 years at the school since she started there as a year nine-student in 1973.

She was Carmel's first Rotary exchange student, going to the United States, returned as an English teacher and going on to be head of English, a dean and play a role in introducing Carmel's IT networks and computers. She became principal in 2014.

For now, she is not revealing her plans for the future. "Now, after 25 years of being at Carmel over a 50-year span, my story moves on to another chapter – not quite written yet but there is a draft."

As principal, her focus has been on "student agency" and removing barriers to learning progression, such as banding and prerequisites in the senior levels.

"I hope I have made a positive contribution to the Carmel story," she said. "But Carmel has very much enriched my story."

Briefs

Raid accused in court

A man accused of taking part in the robbery of Michael Hill Takapuna on 16 June is due to appear in court on 18 July. Police arrested one person after the raid, during which two offenders carrying metal bars smashed glass cabinets, before fleeing with a number of items. It was the third raid in as many months in central Takapuna and left nearby retail workers fearing for their safety. A 20-year-old was charged with receiving stolen property. Investigations are ongoing.

Chinese culture on show

A fundraising concert celebrating Chinese culture is being held by Westlake Boys and Girls High Schools. Following a successful Korean Night last month, the annual Westlake Chinese Night returns on 8 July in the Event Centre at Westlake Girls. It will include traditional and modern Chinese entertainment, including music and dance, with food on sale in the interval. Tickets are \$6 online or \$7 at the door, with 'VIP' entry \$15.

Car crash in Milford

One person was taken to hospital as a precaution after a two-vehicle crash in Kitchener Rd, Milford, just after noon on 27 June.

Westlake wins league 9s

Westlake Boys' High School won the Auckland secondary schools rugby league 9s title, beating Southern Cross Campus 32-8 in the final on 29 June, held at Mt Smart Stadium. Team members Boston Cochrane and Kaawyn Patterson were selected for the New Zealand Māori under-15 league side.

Fluoro pavement paint hard to shift

Painted markings on Takapuna's footpaths are irking businesses and the local board – and have proven hard to erase.

Auckland Transport (AT) has been given the message that people are tired of the multicoloured markings that popped up around four months ago to show Safe Speeds project designers where underground gas and water pipes were located.

At the time, the paper asked how long the paint would remain in both Takapuna and Devonport and was told it was temporary. The chalked-based product was safe and

would wear off in a matter of weeks, or could be water-blasted off using low-pressure settings, an AT spokesman said.

But the paint has been trickier to get rid of than expected, senior project manager Tony Liu admitted to board members last month. "We can't water-blast it," he said.

Talks with a contractor were planned to assess the situation.

Removal might need to be done manually with a nylon brush and graffiti-removal chemical. "We're trying to find resources," Liu said.

Make your voice heard

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

 **Simon Watts**
MP for North Shore

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



IYENGAR NORTH SHORE YOGA

Classes for all levels
Experienced teachers

Check out our new
Takapuna studio



Garden design and construction

Whether you are planning a garden refresh of a full renovation, we believe in creating gardens that are personal, purposeful and beautiful

Call Steve Gustasson on 021 345 694
steve@naturalgardens.co.nz
www.naturalgardens.co.nz

Simon Watts

MP for North Shore

National Party Spokesperson for
Local Government and Associate
Finance & Associate Infrastructure

**Your local MP,
supporting you and
our community**

1 Earnoch Avenue, Takapuna
northshore@parliament.govt.nz
09 486 0005



Long-planned Korean garden project waits for contract

The Korean Garden planned for Barrys Point Reserve on Fred Thomas Drive, Takapuna, is waiting on the development of a contract, Auckland Council says.

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board gave \$150,000 of funding for the project in 2015 and has approved the location.

Stage one will be a memorial garden for veterans of the Korean War, and later stages are to include a pavilion and creation of an area for performances and celebrations.

However, Korean Garden Trust secretary Stephanie Cho previously told the Observer the trust was yet to see the money to get the construction under way. "Once we receive the funding from Auckland Council, we can start straight away," she said.

Auckland Council said last week it was working with the trust to put a suitable contract in place.

The trust was set up in 2009, with 10 founding members, but Korean volunteers began contributing to the local community with work at Lake Pupuke as early as 1997.

After discussions with the former North Shore City Council and Takapuna Community Board, Barrys Point Reserve was arrived at as a good site for a garden.

Cho said the trust hoped to get work underway before the end of the year. The first stage was quite simple and would not take very long to create, she said.

The board granted the charitable trust a 10-year lease, with a 10-year right of renewal.

Rugby finals a player poser for coach

The script could have read: Karl Tu'inukuafu and Lotu Inisi spearheaded Takapuna's pack in a demolition of the North Shore forwards, with star centre Moses Leo scoring three tries to win the North Harbour club rugby championship.

However it is not to be. Tu'inukuafu is in the All Black squad for the test series against Ireland, coming on as a substitute last weekend; Inisi and three other Takapuna players are in the Tongan team touring the Pacific; and Leo is out for the season, after winning a place in the New Zealand Sevens side for the Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

Heading into a North Harbour championship semi-final against Northcote at Onewa Domain tomorrow, Takapuna coach Aaron Katipa will continue to largely rely on the younger players who have taken the team to 12 games undefeated so far in 2022.

If they can get past Northcote, old rivals Shore or their semi-final opponents, Massey, will await in the final.

Takapuna and Shore, the top two sides in pool-play, had byes last weekend, but Takapuna held a Saturday training session. Katipa said it is taking nothing for granted. "It (having a bye) could work for us or against us, you can't really tell."

One of his dilemmas is whether to select the likes of returning Chiefs first-five Bryn Gatland for the big matches ahead of players "who have put in all the effort over the whole season".

Another point of interest rests on the availability of Takapuna captain Shane Neville, who has played 149 games for the club and could play his 150th match for the team on Saturday, but is carrying a slight injury.

• Takapuna plays Northcote at Onewa Domain at 2.45pm tomorrow.

Abandoned dogs fill council shelters

Would-be dog owners are being asked to consider adopting from the city's shelters, which are full of abandoned animals.

Auckland Council says scores of dogs are ready for re-homing, having been temperament-tested and desexed. All three city shelters are full, including the northern shelter at Silverdale.

Adoptions have slowed in recent months, says the council's animal management manager, Elly Waitoa.

"We have seen an increase in the number of people looking to give up their pets, as well as an increase in the stray population."

She puts the influx down to more litters being born due to less desexing being done

in lockdowns, and pressures on ownership, such as people returning to workplaces or having landlords who did not allow them.

Dog rescue groups were also dealing with rising numbers of animals, Waitoa said.

To adopt from the council there is a \$350 fee which covers registration, micro-chipping, desexing, first vaccination and worming and flea treatment.

Owners are asked to meet various criteria, such as having a fenced section and not having been involved in previous dog-related incidents.

Available animals can be seen on the Auckland Council Adoptable Animals pages on Facebook or Instagram.

Write to the Observer

We welcome letters. Please limit to 300 words on local topics. Noms de plume or unnamed letters will not be printed.

Email news@rangitoto-observer.co.nz or write to Letters, PO Box 32 275, Devonport.

ARE YOUR LIVING COSTS RISING?

Live the life you want in retirement.

At Ryman, your base weekly fee is fixed. We guarantee it. And as living costs continue to rise, financial certainty is more important than ever. Residents say it helps them plan ahead while enjoying themselves today.

“Moving into the village has given us more freedom to do the things we enjoy.”

Ross

Former accountant and resident at Ryman’s Diana Isaac Village



Scan the QR code to learn more.

WILLIAM SANDERS VILLAGE
7 Ngataringa Road, Devonport, 445 0909



Intensification questions linger after key meeting

The fate of curbs sought on housing intensification around Takapuna, Milford and Sunnynook is still in the balance.

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board put its case that more weight be given to local factors to Auckland Council's Planning Committee last week. Although the committee decided scaled-back heritage housing protections should remain in the draft Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP) it has yet to determine other matters to meet a deadline of August to overhaul the AUP in response to national housing directives.

Infrastructure concerns are among these, with the board and others across the city giving feedback that they want an "overlay" in the plan to limit building if areas do not have the capacity to deal with this. Watercare has indicated that parts of Takapuna and Milford are among those areas where they hold concerns about future capacity.

The board also wants the fact that Sunnynook is in a flood zone taken into account when determining if certain areas of the suburb are suitable for the greater intensification the plan would allow due to its being close to a bus station.

Sunnynook Community Association

members raised their own concerns about flood plains to the local board recently, after heavy rains. Peter McNee said he was not sure the powers-that-be had thought through the intensification of the area and removal of permeable surfaces.

"Where is the water going to go?"

Board chair Ruth Jackson and member Trish Deans presented the board's feedback to the planning meeting, with Jackson saying a one-size fits all approach would do damage that could not be undone.

Takapuna's "unique geography" between beach and lake meant a blanket 800m metropolitan centre zone around it, allowing buildings of six-storeys as of right, should not take in the narrow strip from Hurstmere Rd to Kitchener Rd. And, in central Milford, areas by Lake Pupuke and Wairau Estuary should be exempt from inclusion in the Terrace Housing and Apartment Building zone.

Public feedback showed 74 per cent local support for special character areas being included in the AUP, the board noted. It called for the qualifying score for heritage homes to be lowered to allow more to be safeguarded in a designated special character area (SCA). SCAs are then exempt

from the new city-wide residential density standard, allowing as of right three-storey, three-house per site development.

Later in the meeting, the committee voted 10-11 against lowering heritage standards to protect more old homes. This is bad news for Northcote Point where assessments did not reach the SCA standard, but in Devonport where most did, the vast majority of older homes will be protected. One North Shore councillor, Chris Darby, voted to lower the standard, while the other, Richard Hills, abstained.

Hills told the Observer afterwards that this was because staff advice was that lowering the standards might make it harder for the council to make the case for retaining heritage SCAs.

Afterwards, Jackson told the Observer the "impossible" deadline the government had imposed on the council was why it needed to be jumping up and down and saying this is not okay. A judicial review could be pursued, she suggested.

Deans said the board would not give up on making the local case. Once the AUP was finalised it could go before an independent hearings panel to make a case.

Freedom campers banned from Milford Reserve car parks

Milford Reserve car parks will soon be off-limits to freedom campers.

Auckland Council last month approved a new freedom-camping bylaw that introduces bans or restrictions at multiple spots across Auckland, and rules for the rest of the city that include campers having to use a certified self-contained vehicle, being limited to two nights in the same place, having to leave by 9am on the third day and not returning to the same spot within two weeks.

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

asked for Milford Reserve to be included on the ban list after public submitters sought a ban in high-use areas, such as the beach reserves at Milford and Takapuna.

The Milford Residents Association wanted freedom camping restricted to a certain number of spaces in beachfront areas, such as Milford Beach car park.

But the association is pleased with the total ban, says co-chair Norma Bott.

"We've had problems with people in the past deciding to camp there," she said.

The public toilets are locked at night, and

while freedom campers are meant to be self-contained, not all of them are.

"If you get caught short in the middle of the night, where are you going to go?"

Enforcement was also an issue, she said.

"It's the same with dog control. Even though it's a law, it will be the locals that will be reminding the people who camp there still that they shouldn't be there."

The revised bylaw comes into force on 1 September.

Rule-breakers can face an infringement fine of \$200 or a court fine of up to \$10,000.

July Holiday Activity - Shape Ahoy!

Turn shapes into sea creatures.



When: Sat 9 July - Sun 24 July
10am - 5pm daily

Cost: free - koha welcomed
Suitable for 3+



Navy Museum
64 King Edward Parade
Devonport

All welcome at new community library in Milford



Fully booked... Volunteers Jo Osborne (left) and Mary Devine, who are staffing the community library in the Milford Senior Citizens Hall

A community library is opening in the Milford Senior Citizens' hall, in the hope of attracting more people into the building.

Jo Osborne and Mary Devine will staff the library twice a week. It is open to all, with a \$5 annual administration fee.

The books are either left from a library previously run in the hall, or donated. Readers can bring a book to donate and leave with another.

"It's not necessarily just older people we're trying to attract," Osborne said. "I want it to be more of a community feel."

With the exception of a few out-of-print

editions, the honorary librarians are happy for people to keep a book if they love it. There's no time limit for returns.

They have plans to serve coffee and tea, install a couple of comfy armchairs and maybe bring out games.

The existing book collection had sat dormant in the building for years, so a "ruthless" clean-out was necessary, Devine said.

Shelves of Westerns were rescued from a recycling bin by an 18-year-old who sold some of them.

Donations of books are welcomed, and the

group is happy to collect books if necessary.

The Senior Citizens Club itself now has fewer than 100 members. Retirement homes and villages hold many of their own activities, says member Norma Bott.

And while members use the hall for mahjong and cards and a knitting group, and private groups hire it, the club wants it better used. "We just want people to pour in the doors."

The library will be open on Tuesdays from 9am to 12pm, and on Thursdays from 12pm to 3pm. People wanting to donate books can contact mscc.hall@gmail.com.

END OF SEASON SALE

UP TO 50% OFF ALL WINTER STYLES

LUCA GROSSI LEANORA

WAS \$349 **NOW \$249**

ZINDA ZEATIN

WAS \$429 **NOW \$269**

PONS QUINTANA MINDY

WAS \$629 **NOW \$314.50**

WONDERS WATTEE

WAS \$349 **NOW \$199**

Shop online - www.mikkoshoes.nz
MILFORD
121 Kitchener Road
09 972 2354



Before and after... Saarah Iqra, 6, took her finished lantern outdoors to enjoy the effect

Star-struck youngsters enter into spirit of Matariki

The Sunnynook Community Centre was turned into a Matariki hub last month, with youngsters making lanterns to celebrate Maori New Year.

Several parents said they were along to learn as well at the free late-afternoon session. Others were invited in from busy Sunnynook Park by members of the community association.

Around 30 gathered in total under the guidance of Natanahira Pona and Terehia Walker who were excited to bring Matariki activities to Sunnynook, with the support of the Takapuna North Community Trust and the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

Both have been driving forces in cultural activities on the Devonport peninsula, where the wider community came together on the first Matariki holiday weekend in a hikoi up Takarunga.

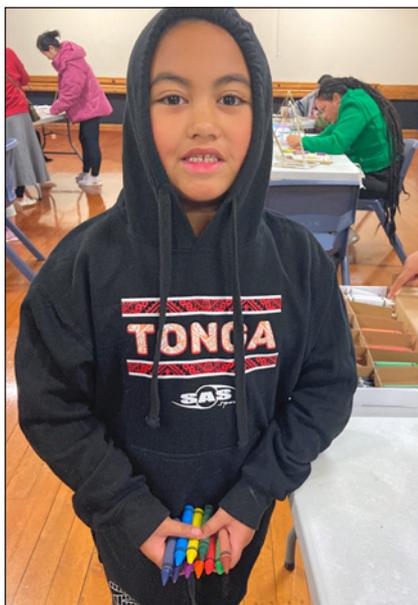
"I think we will go along," said one mother when she heard about the event which drew more than 1000 people. Another mother said she decided to bring her daughter along after hearing about

the event. "It's her first celebration here in New Zealand – we just moved from Fiji."

Pona, whakairo or master carver at the Lake House Arts Centre in Takapuna, has been working with schools and community groups in the local-board area. He says around 600 lanterns have been made. Walker, who lives in Devonport and whose husband Ngahiwi manages the Navy marae, said she relished being able to share the traditions of Matariki.

Lanterns were once used to signal such things as kai being ready, she said. Kites were also signalling devices and while they were once made from flaxes and toi-toi, the modern versions they created were still environmentally friendly, with lanterns made of bamboo sticks and paper which the children painted.

At each venue they work in, the pair assemble a "mega star" from combined lanterns. "We leave one of these as our taonga everywhere we go."



Budding artists... (from left) Fina Tonga, 7, whose mother plays league at Sunnynook Park for the Glenfield Greyhounds; Tia, 5, with her artwork, and Lydia Li, 5



Starry eyed... Beau Hirst, 3, from Mairangi Bay makes his mark, while Hauraki's Eliza Godfrey, 3, shows off her creation at the Takapuna Matariki market over the recent holiday weekend



Plant purveyor... Michelle Vaughan of My Whenua says her plant hobby got out of control so now she sells them

Hurstmere Green buzzed with activity during a Matariki market that featured live music, free workshops on the Matariki stars and planting, children's activities and plenty of craft stalls.

Sophie Miller travelled from Waihi to sell her wreaths made from natural vine with crochet inserts. "I don't watch TV. I like to make stuff," she said. A bonus in coming was she got a lovely view of Matariki while driving across the Hauraki Plains.

The Takapuna Beach Business Association said several thousand people attended over the day.



Crafty pair... Lio Robertson, 7, and Noah Robertson, 5, from Castor Bay got the hang of making stars from sticks and wool



Two out of three... Eight-year-old triplets Isabel and Madeline Budd from Takapuna attend St Joseph's School, which they said held a big Matariki breakfast



Hot soup hits the spot in Sunnynook

Offering a cup of hot soup on chilly evenings is proving a welcome gesture among Sunnynook residents.

Once a month, members of the community association set up a table behind the community centre and invite passers-by to partake. With Sunnynook park busy in the early evenings – people out on its paths for exercise or at the fields for sports practice – the soup goes down well and conversation flows.

Community Association chair Mel Powell says the “Sunnynook Soupie” is also a good opportunity to raise awareness of the association’s work and let people who are new to the area know about its area emergency plan and list of contacts.

The next Soupie is on Thursday 18 August at 6pm.

The association’s annual general meeting is on Thursday 21 July at 7.30pm. Among topics that will be discussed are ways to make the area “the best little nook” around, says Powell.

Helping hands... Student Anya, 19, with her mother Mel Powell (centre) and fellow Sunnynook Community Association member Soriya Em, on soup-dispensing duty beside Sunnynook Park

Board split over AT’s squeeze on parking

Fears street and shop parking will be lost have turned local politicians against a draft parking strategy devised by Auckland Transport (AT).

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board voted 4-2 vote against the long-term plan in deciding its feedback to AT, saying it was untenable to repurpose parking at a time of growing demand and while local businesses were trying to recover from Covid lockdowns.

Parking was the “lifeline” of local town centres and already under pressure in Takapuna, Milford and Sunnynook, it noted.

But the two dissenting board members, Toni van Tonder and Aidan Bennett, said the board needed to work with AT in coming up with strategies to better use the road network.

“There’s an appetite to shift mode, but there’s a lot of barriers to that,” van Tonder said.

Many more people would use buses if they were regular and not stuck in traffic, she said.

Freeing up the Rapid Transit Network by removing parking – stage one of the strategy – would make space for bus and cycle lanes and improve safety. “I feel really disappointed we can’t get behind this,” she said.

Aidan Bennett said board members had to be careful not to be trying to be road designers. “As a local board we need to be working with these organisations, not against them.”

Board chair Ruth Jackson proposed recommendations – supported by Jan O’Connor, Trish Deans and George Wood – to tell AT that its strategy, coupled with diminishing off-street parking through housing developments, would disadvantage those living and working on affected streets.

She pointed to the difficulties loss of parking would pose to tradespeople, delivery vehicles, caregivers and support workers, the disabled, people who were unable to use public transport, and those on lower incomes.

Van Tonder observed: “If you buy a place without a carpark, it’s not the public responsibility to give you a park on the road network.”

Any changes beyond the busiest routes were a long time off, she said, and would be consulted on.

“It’s not fair we go out and scaremonger about parking being removed from the main road of Milford,” van Tonder said.

Bennett criticised “scaremongering” about problems that were different from

1985: “We’ve got to look to 2030.”

Milford Business Association manager Murray Hill wrote to the board expressing opposition to losing parking spaces on Milford’s main street.

He said he had not made a formal submission to AT, having previously found such consultations a waste of time, but its staff had given an assurance it would be “some years” before Milford would be a focus.

The Takapuna Beach Business Association’s submission to AT, which the board unanimously supported, said a net loss of 75 parks had hit Takapuna businesses in recent years, along with the lengthy Hurstmere Rd upgrade and Covid.

“New residential developments with little or no parking will place unsustainable pressure on parking in the Takapuna area, and drive more businesses out to other locations,” it submitted.

The board unanimously supported some aspects of AT’s plan, including its encouragement of residential parking zones and permits, and ride-share services, and its intention to discourage parking on grass berms.

AT’s intention to develop parking management plans for specific local centres, before changes are made, was also backed – provided the board got a fair say.

What's for Dinner IN TAKAPUNA?



Franc's Bar & Diner
Main Beach, The Strand



Karam Eatery
2 Anzac St



Gangnam Style Korean BBQ
11/62-78 Hurstmere Rd



Botticelli
8 Anzac St



El Humero
3/40 Hurstmere Rd



Al Forno
34 Anzac St



Aubergine
129 Hurstmere Rd



BurgerFuel
22 Anzac St



Sake Bar Nippon
32 Anzac St



Blazin' Burger
Shore City Shopping Centre



Fatima's
20 Anzac St



Little Lamb HotPot
178 Hurstmere Rd



High Tide Seafood
56-60 Hurstmere Rd



Basu Lounge
452 Lake Rd



Taylors on Hurstmere
168 Hurstmere Rd



Renkon
18 Anzac St

For more inspiration, visit: ILOVETAKAPUNA.CO.NZ

ADVERTISEMENT

Ear expert has extra insight

Though well-qualified as an audiologist, with more than 10 years of professional experience, Ron Trounson, co-owner at Ear Health in Devonport, says growing up in a household with his deaf mother is where he acquired his most valuable credentials.

“My mum had meningitis as a child and lost 100 per cent hearing in one ear and most of her hearing in her other ear. She lip-read her way through school and when hearing-aid technology finally became available, used hearing aids,” says Trounson who lived in Hauraki in early childhood.

As a child, Trounson learned how best to communicate to hearing impaired people – speaking in a lower and slower voice, avoiding mumbling and using simpler language when that was appropriate.

Before becoming an audiologist, Trounson earned a Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Auckland and worked in Brazil for 10 years.

The South American sojourn added to his communication skills.

“I lived 10 years in Brazil, working on major projects that required me to communicate with people from all over the world, so you learn quickly how to adjust your communication style depending on who you’re talking to,” he says.

“Brazillians are very social. So now I basically ‘chin-wag’ all day as part of my job.”

And the ‘chin-wagging’ has become one of Ear Health’s points of difference.

Large audiology franchises can be impersonal, and patients often see a different audiologist each time. But at EarHealth patients see either Trounson or business partner Soren Thompson.

“We remember you, our previous conversations and your device preferences. We’re small, local and personalised,” Trounson says.

Ear Health offers the ear-wax removal which many audiology clinics don’t provide. Build up of ear wax can render even high-



Joelle Hopkins (Admin), Ron Trounson (Audiologist), and Jerryle Sunga (Technician)

quality and expensive hearing aids ineffective, so Ear Health has the latest equipment and qualified technicians to remove the wax.

“We have everything under the one roof, so you don’t have to go somewhere else to get your ears cleaned, only to then come back and have the device fitted or adjusted.”

Devices have become more sophisticated over the years, with the most recent of them looking like gadgets from a James Bond movie – essentially going unseen in the ear.

Trounson says demand for these devices has increased dramatically since Covid began, because masks have added another complication for people who might already have their hearing aids and glasses on their ears.

Insurance companies are preferring the hidden aids too: “So many people have lost hearing aids when they pull off the masks.”

The new hearing aids connect to a phone with low-powered bluetooth. While some can be hidden, other models look like in-ear

earphones, prompting Trounson to describe them as a kind of “jewellery for the ear”.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Ear cleaning by micro-suction
- Diagnostic hearing tests
- Hearing-aid fitting and repairs
- Hearing health and rehabilitation
- Tinnitus assessments and advice

Ear Health is ACC, Enable and WINZ registered. All services are provided by medical professionals, including Registered Nurses and MNZAS Audiologists.



EAR HEALTH
PROFESSIONAL EAR CARE

Ear Health Devonport

82 Lake Road, Narrow Neck ☎ 09 242 0866

Earwax removal | Audiology | Hearing tests | Hearing aids





TAM DENTAL GROUP
COSMETIC + GENERAL DENTISTRY

the art of dentistry

Dental Assistant

We are seeking a Dental Assistant who is friendly, proactive, and focused to join our team of dedicated professionals at Tam Dental Group (Devonport & Newmarket). The work is highly detail-orientated and can be fast paced, needing good time management and organisational skills. This position is full time, 36–40 hours per week and will commence early July.

Responsibilities

- Meeting and greeting patients.
- 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@clarencetam.co.nz.

Office Administrator

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 drivers license and must have a valid NZ Working VISA or the rights to work in New Zealand.

To apply, please send your resume and cover letter to peter@shorejobs.co.nz

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Devonport Naval Base

Postions available:

- Sous-Chef
- Chef
- Catering Assistant
- Bar Staff
- Cleaning Assistant



Full time – Part time (in-between school hours) opportunities to learn, grow and be part of our big family

For more information please contact: Chefs – Maja +64 275 780056
Bar, Catering and Cleaning Assistants – Pam: +64 221 081050



Hardy souls take the plunge at Castor Bay



About 70 swimmers dipped into the Castor Bay sea to mark the shortest day – on one of the coldest mornings of the year.

The temperature was about six degrees at the 7am start, with a cold wind blowing off the ocean.

“Ten girls who were friends of mine were coming until last night, but then all but one cancelled when they saw the weather,” says Takapuna’s Noelene Botha.

Organiser Andrew Parker is part of the Castor Bay Sea Rise group, which meets at 7.10 every weekday morning for an ocean dip. “It’s quite addictive,” he said. “We ran this last year – we thought it’s a great thing to get the community involved in.”

Castor Bay local Emma Charlesworth says she’s a convert – her husband has been doing it for years.

“I have trained myself in the last three months,” she said. She says it makes her feel “so much better during the day”, helps her back pain, and she loves how soft her skin is when she first gets out of the water.

“I’ve started working from home and these are the people I see, and that is a huge thing I look forward to in my day.”

Dave ‘Daisy’ McGlashan says he’s been doing early dips for about 18 months. “It’s good for the body and soul,” he says. “It’s the worst thing your body’s going to face all day. It can only get better.”

Not chicken... Emma and Andrew Charlesworth are Castor Bay locals and regular dippers.



Undercover agent... Dave ‘Daisy’ McGlashan says the day can only get better after a cold swim



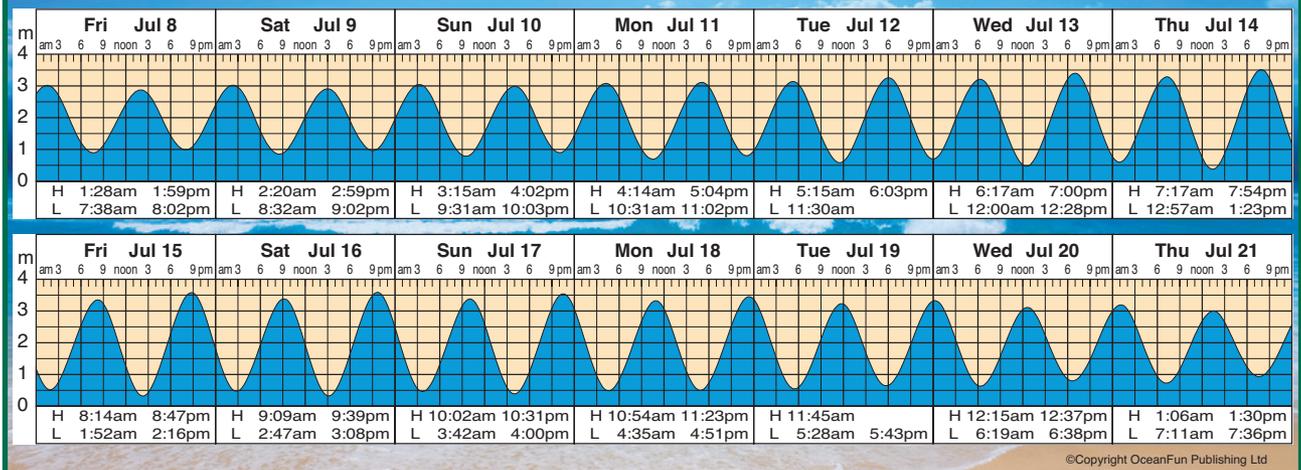
Toasty trio... Wrapping up warm after braving the water are (from left) Noelene Botha from Takapuna, Michele McGregor from Forrest Hill, and Suzin Gregory from Glenfield



Dipping their toes... About 70 people braved single-digit temperatures at Castor Bay for a swim at sunrise



Milford / Takapuna Tides





KINGDOM
DECORATORS

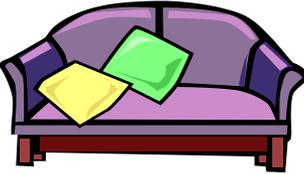
**WE GUARANTEE
OUR WORKMANSHIP**

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
a garden specialist

Tree Pruning
Hedge trimming
Garden maintenance
Landscaping

Contact Rene on
021 134 5604
info@renegardening.co.nz




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



Tony Gasperini
Qualified Local Arborist

Tree & Tall Hedge Specialist
027 770-0099
Devonport, Auckland
tony.gasperini@gmail.com



FENCE BROTHERS

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

www.fencebros.co.nz

CONTACT US
FOR A FREE QUOTE
0800 336 232

How long since you checked your roof?
How about we do it for you?
For FREE with this ad!

1st Rate Roof Care
One-Stop Roof Maintenance

- ✓ Painting
- ✓ Repointing
- ✓ Cleaning
- ✓ Rust Repair
- ✓ Lichen/Moss Treatment
- ✓ Tile Replacement



0800 025 515
m: 021 579 371 e: service@1st-rate.co.nz
www.facebook.com/1stratelt/

The Rangitoto
Observer

Classifieds

SERVICES OFFERED

FixIT Handyman - excellent work, practical budget, most jobs welcome, interior/exterior free quote. Josh 0212618322

WANT TO ADVERTISE?

Rangitoto Observer Classified Advertising. It really works. To make a booking please email us at sales@devonportflagstaff.co.nz



Support your paper for the price of a cup of coffee.

Go to rangitoto-observer.co.nz and click on 'Become a supporter' at the top of the page.

Lake House art auction raises cash for Ukraine

An art auction in Takapuna raised more than \$4000 for those suffering in war-torn Ukraine

Lake House Arts Art for a Cause fundraiser combined a silent auction with a gala night, with proceeds going to the New Zealand Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal.

The guest auctioneer for the event was Shane Cortese, known for his acting roles in TV shows such as *Outrageous Fortune*, *Nothing Trivial* and *Shortland Street*.

Cortese himself bought a piece donated by Lake House members' merit-award winner Sheree Foster.

Her piece, *Wired*, was made using repurposed copper.

Meanwhile, Lake House manager Grae Burton recently presented a report on the 2021-22 financial year to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

The facility hosted 132 arts and cultural classes, which drew 1305 student enrolments, while 38,737 visitors were recorded across the 12 months.

But it was not all rosy, with participation, funding and art sales down due to the impact of Covid, and thefts of sculptures and outdoor lighting hitting the centre, along with unexpected maintenance on sprinkler systems.

Upcoming events include an exhibition from the Wilson School, an exhibition from 10 schools across Takapuna and Devonport, and *Art in a Day* – an outdoor community art competition.



For a good cause... Auctioneer Shane Cortese with artist Sheree Foster



WHAT'S ON @ Takapuna Library



EXHIBITION

SONJA DRAKE Angela Morton Room
Te Pātaka Toi Art Library
Level, 1, Takapuna Library
Until 10 August

Sonja Drake's ECOTONES exhibition in the AM Room draws on Wairau Creek's history and ecology from pre-human habitation to the present day. Her stunning observational watercolours show contaminated layers of water, pōhutukawa roots, drains, birdlife, lichen. She also shares photographs and historical documentation about the area: Mairangi Stream, Porana Road, Milford Beach, and news reports about sewerage contamination, the loss of eels, pollution, flooding - and the pipes, channels and holding ponds used to control the waterways. Sonya's slideshow documents the rich history of this area from the site of Rahopara Pa, a Te Kawerau Pa, at Kennedy Point, to recent wetland restoration projects, and her family connections to the area, incl her grandparents' market garden and 14 cows which they milked for town supply.

Trail trust seeks notice of disruption

The trust behind length-of-the-country walk Te Araroa has asked to be alerted to any disruptions to the path through the Devonport-Takapuna board area.

The Te Araroa trail from Cape Reinga to Bluff includes the North Shore Coastal Trail, which passes through Castor Bay, along the Milford-Takapuna coastal walk and along the road to the Devonport waterfront.

The trust's Spencer Matthews asked the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board to keep the trust in the loop for any issues that may disrupt the route.

"If you're planning on doing any major works or infrastructure on our trail please bear us in mind," he said. "If you can give us an early heads-up we can advise the walkers."

The trust also told of issues faced by the trail across the country.

"Accommodation is probably the biggest one that we're working on for the northern side of the Waitemata Harbour. A lot of our walkers are doing it on a budget and north of the harbour is not a great place for accommodation on a budget."

The group welcomes "trail angels" who offer free accommodation for walkers on their way through.

The board's chair, Ruth Jackson, told the trust to be mindful of parts of the coastal walk between Milford and Takapuna where private property boundaries extended over the trail.

What is it worth?

**ART • ANTIQUES
JEWELLERY
WATCHES**



**FREE LOCAL
VERBAL APPRAISAL
OVER 30 YEARS EXP**

**Hamish Walsh
021 461 727
+ COINS • BANKNOTES**

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Kathryn Robertson
Residential Sales
021 490 480

BAYLEYS

E: Kathryn.robertson@bayleys.co.nz
W: kathrynrobertson.bayleys.co.nz
LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

Bigger, better, brighter: lighting team ready

More than 20 years ago, Dan Move was a DJ in Takapuna. These days he's still intent on spinning a good night out – but he's back with added wattage.

The event manager behind the Winter Lights Festival promises eye-catching installations and performances aplenty over four evenings in late July.

Hurstmere Rd and Hurstmere Green will be lit up in a free spectacular expected to attract large crowds to the town centre.

It's a key event on the wider Elemental AKL festival programme, which promotes arts, eats and beats. But for Takapuna the focus is very much on celebrating community and revitalising the area.

Move lives locally, and like everyone he's ready for some post-Covid razzle-dazzle. And he has the track record to deliver it, having staged light festivals in New Zealand and overseas with leading light designer Angus Muir.

"I'm hoping parents will dress their kids up – wrap them in fairy lights," he suggests.

As one of the founders of the Luma festival in Queenstown – which this year drew 60,000 people over its run in early June, helping pump millions into the resort town's Covid-battered economy – Move sees the potential for Winter Lights to similarly snowball.

"That's what we are trying to achieve in Takapuna. It's an opportunity to have a major activity on the North Shore."

Crowd-pulling events in New Zealand are often based around sports stadiums, but Move is keen for the arts to be just as big a drawcard.

Budget is a partial brake on his ambition. Winter Lights has much less to work with than the \$850,000 Luma event.

Last year's festival was a successful smaller event. This year, the aim is to build on that, presenting new attractions.

Alongside the work of experienced crea-



Dan's the man... Takapuna resident Dan Move is organising the Winter Lights festival

tives, a community flavour will come from artwork from students at Takapuna Primary School that will be projected overhead, and a Maori engagement story, depicting a tree's life-cycle on a big specimen on Hurstmere Green. Local DJ Kam Hall will man the decks.

"In 2023, the hope is it will be bigger again, spreading into the Takapuna Town Square if that is available, from which light streams and paths towards the beach could be created," says Move.

The former Westlake Boys High School student, now 46, has split most of his time between Queenstown and Takapuna for many years. He counts himself lucky to own homes in both places, bought when they were more affordable.

"I guess coming from the North Shore, Queenstown is the polar opposite." But alike too, he says, in that both places exist in their own bubbles.

On his first trip south, at age 17, he hitchhiked, stopping in Motueka to pick apples with a friend to make enough money to buy a snowboard. He later completed audio

studies in Auckland and at one time ran label LoveFunk Records, as well as producing for the band True Reel and collaborating with other musicians.

Some of his early DJing was at Fever bar, which introduced an electronic music scene to the North Shore, back when Hurstmere Rd pumped late. (Fever was owned by his close friend Warrick Jones, who became a keen triathlete and was killed when out cycling, in a collision with a truck on Lake Rd in March 2021. The driver faces charges.) Move adopted his last name for work purposes. It was originally Green, but he chose Move based on a bar of that name that he owned for a while in Ohakune around 20 years ago.

Through his varied experiences, he picked up skills in marketing and how to put together events. At one stage he ran the queenstown.com website, putting him at the heart of goings-on in his second home. With a group of friends the idea for Luma was formed, and the connection established with Auckland-based designer Angus Muir, who is curator of the Takapuna festival. It will be Muir's vision behind the placement of installations and imagery.

"Angus is absolutely amazing. He's New Zealand's leading light artist," Move says.

The men hit it off immediately when they met in 2015 and went on to set up light festivals in Jerusalem, London, Singapore and Sydney, along with guerrilla events at the Dead Sea and in Iceland. Previous events in Auckland include at the Viaduct and Smales Farm. Covid grounded this light brigade, meaning Move has spent much of the last two years in Takapuna. He moved back into the house he had previously rented out, and spent time doing it up. Then an introduction to Takapuna Beach Business Association boss Terence Harpur – who wanted an event to lift spirits – kickstarted Winter Lights 2021, which was put together over about four months. "It was a good way to sink my teeth into something creative and something local," Move says.

This year's festival has been a year in the planning. Backing from Auckland Unlimited provides a chunk of the budget, along with grants, ranging from \$15,000 from Foundation North to smaller amounts sourced from others, including the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

Move's network of contacts means the festival will draw on talent from Queenstown, Christchurch and Wellington, as well as performers from Auckland. The final set-up will take about 10 people recruited from teams that regularly work with him and Muir.

"The aim is to bring the community out of their homes and give them a sensory experience with arts and culture and for it be something that gives them wonderment."

• Takapuna Winter Lights runs on Hurstmere Rd from 28-31 July, from 5-10pm.

THE UNEXPECTED GUEST
BY AGATHA CHRISTIE
A mid-winter mystery thriller
27 JULY - 7 AUGUST 2022
THE PUMPHOUSE, TAKAPUNA
TICKETS AT PUMPHOUSE.CO.NZ

ST MATTHEW'S CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Sunday 24 July at 2.30pm
PROGRAMME
Taylor Silk/Gravel
Beethoven Piano Concerto No 5 Op 73 in E Flat, "Emperor"
Ritche, A French Overture
Sibelius King Kristian II Suite Op 27
SOLOIST
Diedre Irons
CONDUCTOR
Michael Joel
Just a ferry trip to the Centre of Auckland
ST MATTHEW-IN-THE-CITY
Cnr of Wellesley & Hobson Streets, Auckland City

to switch on an eye-catching spectacular



Lights, action... Performers at Winter Lights 2021 (above). Expect new acts and more displays this year, along with plenty of Instagrammable opportunities like that shown blow.



VICTORIA THEATRE DEVONPORT



NOW SHOWING

Chaplin's Limelight (1952) (G) 137min Rerelease	NEW
Thor: Love and Thunder (M) 119min	NEW
Whetū Mārama – Bright Star (E) 90min	NEW
Minions: The Rise of Gru (PG) 87min	NEW
A Mermaid in Paris (M) 103min	NEW
Lion King Reo Māori (G) 88min	NEW
Tutankhamun: The Last Exhibition (E) 80min	NEW
Elvis (M) 159min	NEW
Whina (PG) 112min	NEW

COMING SOON

The Phantom of the Open (M) 106min	14 JUL
Princess Mononoke (1997) (PG) 134min	Rerelease 14 JUL
The Black Phone (R16) 103min	Previews 15-17 JUL
Where the Crawdads Sing (TBA) 120min	Previews 15-17 JUL
The Vic Open Mic Night (Free entry)	28 JUL

SPECIALS

CHEAP TUESDAY
ALL TICKETS \$10
*EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS



SPECIAL EVENT

VINEYARDS PRESENTS

OPEN MIC

FREE ENTRY
@8PM ON THE LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
More Information at www.thevic.co.nz
events@thevic.co.nz

We are operating under the Covid Protection Framework.
For more information please visit our website.

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

PREMIUM[®]

TAKAPUNA | 501/28 KILLARNEY STREET | CREME DE LA CREME | PENTHOUSE SUPREME



Experience the 300sqm (excluding multiple decks) of opulent one level living flowing out to a choice of expansive loggias. The master suite faces beautifully to the morning sun with divine Rangitoto and lake view with its own deck to retreat to. Unprecedented secure basement parking includes 9 car parks ensuring you and your visitors and family have ample parking to visit.

VIEW | BY APPOINTMENT

[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/80280](https://premium.co.nz/80280)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

ALISON PARKER 021 983 533 | 916 6000

GERRY PETRIE 021 92 3352 | 916 6000

MILFORD | 8A SYLVAN PARK AVENUE | MILFORD IN A HOT MINUTE



Everything is at your doorstep here in this centrally positioned, 10 year old home in this blue chip location. This executive home built by Synergy Homes is jammed packed full of quality fittings, timeless layout, clean simple lines and family friendly yet luxe interiors. With 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and 2 living areas with a flexible layout suitable for all family variations or a professional couple working from home this ticks all the boxes.

VIEW | BY APPOINTMENT

[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/80288](https://premium.co.nz/80288)

PRICE | BY NEGOTIATION

JELENA FREEMAN 021 65 65 63 | 916 6000

TAKAPUNA | 1 BRETT AVENUE | THE FINEST OF THE AVENUES



From the moment you enter this spectacular property, you are greeted with the most gorgeous floodlit tropical garden. Featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (incl ensuite) and a large sunroom, open plan kitchen, living and dining area showcasing an incredible cathedral ceiling, you are spoiled for choice. With a freehold 607sqm (approx.) parcel of land this superb opportunity won't last long.

VIEW | BY APPOINTMENT

[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/80283](https://premium.co.nz/80283)

PRICE | BY NEGOTIATION

LEWIS GUY 021 867 355 | 916 6000

HARRY RICHARDS 021 0814 4513 | 916 6000

TAWHARANUI PENINSULA | 449 WHITMORE ROAD | SERENITY, SEA VIEWS & SUNSETS



Wind down through the olive grove to this beautiful Mediterranean-style home which opens out onto truly stunning, long views of the Matakana Coast. Designed to enjoy all-day sun the open plan living extends out to covered patios and with 4 double bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, this is family living at its finest. Seek a lifestyle offering supreme peace and privacy... The only sound here is birdsong.

VIEW | BY APPOINTMENT

[PREMIUM.CO.NZ/90082](https://premium.co.nz/90082)

PRICE | BY NEGOTIATION

ROBERT MATULICH 021 634 059 | 422 9280

LINDA SMITH 021 470 175 | 422 9280

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

PREMIUM REAL ESTATE LTD LICENSED REAA 2008 | 916 6000