

focus

Issue 47
April 2026

on community

Long Bay, Okura and Torbay

Tidepooling Etiquette with MERC

See page 7



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A Century of Tradition Meets a Future of Service

For over a hundred years, the rhythmic patterns of worship at St Mary by the Sea have remained largely unchanged. They are sad to say goodbye to a space and place that has nurtured them for 140 years.

However, the congregation is now preparing for a profound transformation as they relocate from their long-time home in Torbay to a new chapter in Browns Bay. This move is far more than a simple change of address; it is a radical reorientation of the church's resources to meet a growing need in their own backyard.

The driving force behind this relocation is a commitment to run a social enterprise cafe, inspired by the innovative model of the Dunedin Bowling Club. The vision is of a typical local eatery during the day, that transforms into a community hub that serves kai at night. The cafe aims to address the significant food insecurity currently on the North Shore, with an ambitious goal of feeding upwards of 500 people a simple meal five evenings a week.

For the small but dedicated congregation of 76 people, the decision required a difficult look at their existing assets. Realising they lacked the capital to launch such a large-scale social project while maintaining their current facilities, they chose to prioritise impact over infrastructure. In their own tradition, they view this as fulfilling the "gospel imperatives" to both clothe and feed those in need. Having already established a successful community shop to provide clothing, the move to Browns Bay represents the vital next step in their mission.

This transition involves a deliberate downsizing of their land and worship spaces. Their larger group, which averages about 35 worshippers, will now gather within the very cafe space that serves the community, while a smaller group of 15 will find a home in a modest chapel.



The cemetery is designated "public open space" and is not part of the sale. It sits on a separate title in trust and St Mary by the Sea will continue to maintain it and the ash plots.

By intentionally reducing their physical footprint, St Mary by the Sea is unlocking the capital necessary to create a net positive impact on the North Shore. Recognising that government support is unlikely to solve local food insecurity in the near future, this small community is taking it upon themselves to change how their wealth is used—proving that even a century of tradition can evolve when the call to serve becomes loud enough to follow.

Dion Blundell

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Content of this magazine.

If you have any editorial ideas or unusual photos please send to editor@focusoncommunity.co.nz

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Please contact Carole on

473 3259 or email

editor@focusoncommunity.co.nz

Delivered to 7,000 homes and businesses in Okura, Long Bay, Torbay and Waiake monthly.

editor's letter

We don't seem to "do" April Fool's Day in the same way we used to.

Many years ago, I remember the BBC in the UK did a spoof of spaghetti growing on trees and huge numbers of people believed it. I suppose the BBC was viewed as a place where information came from and was reliable, so it wasn't really surprising that many believed.

It's a busy month this month with Easter and Anzac Day - we have information on the local church services on page 31 and there is a special Anzac story, by a local historian, David Verran, on page 15. Page 10 has the Anzac Day events for anyone wishing to attend.

On Page 26 we have an article written by a local 10 year old. It is so good to see young people passionate about the world and it was a well written article.

Many of the local clubs report in

the magazine and we have a wealth of local clubs you can attend. They represent a huge number of interests that are worth exploring.

If you are feeling you would like a new interest or want to make some new friends, then look through, read about what they do and think about going along to one of the meetings. I am certain you will be made welcome.

On 7th April it is World Health Day. Good health is not something to be taken for granted, as many know how quickly that can be lost.

Perhaps it is worth a moments reflection on how you are managing your health - do you eat healthily, sleep properly and have adequate exercise?

Have a great April

Carole McMinn,
Editor



editor@focusoncommunity.co.nz | 09 473 3259

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The men worked so cleanly and were very pleasant, each came exactly when they said they would and did a superb job. The Plumber sang most of the time when working with his lovely daughter, who is his apprentice! Obviously enjoys his work!

We are absolutely delighted with our new bathroom and would recommend the Coastal Bathrooms to anyone."

Carole McMinn

Torbay Friendship Club

My mother used to say "Time flies when you're having fun" she also said "Time waits for no man, and as you get older the years seem to fly by"

Statements that I never believed at the time, however, I just don't have enough time to do everything I want to, even my bucket list has a bucket list. Our generation is living longer, exploring more and time is of the essence. We may have some joints that need oiling and losing a word or two, but it's all part of the life we've lived and loved.

Since I joined the Torbay Friendship Club I have realised that there is nothing better than meeting those unknown friends and now I am so involved, weeks are just not long enough.



Remember, we have a choice in life, either happy or sad, I chose happy and realise, no matter what I am going through, there are others in a far worse situation and life is here to be lived.

If it's not Rummikub, Scrabble, Craft, Majongh it's that coffee morning and great excursion to look forward to.

A trip to Westbrook Winery was our last excursion, 32 of us, we filled ourselves with wine, no I'm only kidding, with the beautifully presented array of cheeses, breads and condiments only to be presented with scrumptious pizzas later. No doubt there were a few sleepy heads on the way home.

Do pop in and visit us, we meet every 2nd Thursday of a month at 10am in the Torbay Community Hall, we would love to welcome you.

Remember, stay positive, no matter your age, it is only a number.

Take care everyone.

Delphine Pearson



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Top Awards Achiever for Torbay



Wendy's update

Auckland's housing market experienced strong sales activity in February following January's high activity.

With confidence returning for buyers, lower mortgage rates and price stability we are seeing strong buyer activity – a great time to be considering selling before those long winter months begin.

Having lived locally for more than 40 years I offer strong local knowledge that makes a difference - if you are thinking about your options of buying, selling or investing this year, I would be delighted to hear from you

Kind regards, Wendy

Torbay/Waiake February 2026

 <p>128</p> <p>PROPERTIES FOR SALE</p>	 <p>26</p> <p>PROPERTIES SOLD</p>
 <p>\$856,00</p> <p>LOWEST VALUE SALE</p>	 <p>\$2,164,000</p> <p>HIGHEST VALUE SALE</p>

Wendy Radcliffe

021 772 070

w.radcliffe@barfoot.co.nz

Why Joining Toastmasters Might Be the Best Decision You Make This Year

What do job interviews, wedding speeches, team meetings and community events all have in common? At some point you have to stand up and speak. For many, that's terrifying – but it doesn't have to be.

That's where Toastmasters International can help. Toastmasters is a worldwide organisation dedicated to helping people become more confident communicators and stronger leaders. For over 100 years, it has helped millions of people find their voice – from students and young professionals to tradies, managers and business owners.

Toastmasters isn't about being perfect. It's about learning new skills that you can practise in a safe, supportive environment with people who want you to succeed.

Why? Because confidence changes everything. You speak up in meetings instead of staying quiet. You present ideas clearly, instead of stumbling over your words. You handle job interviews with calm assurance. You can stand up at a wedding and enjoy giving your speech.

For young people starting out in their careers, this is powerful. Employers value strong communicators. Being able to present well, think on your feet, lead discussions and give constructive feedback are highly sought-after workplace skills. Having Toastmasters on your CV signals initiative, leadership and a commitment to personal growth. It tells employers, "I invest in developing myself."

One of the biggest myths is that Toastmasters is only for confident people. Many members join because they feel nervous, shy or unsure of themselves. Meetings are structured, friendly and often full of laughter. There's encouragement, practical feedback and applause – even for your very first speech.

Over time, members develop skills in leadership, listening, impromptu speaking, running meetings and thinking clearly under pressure. These aren't just public speaking skills – they're life skills.



Imagine walking into a room without that knot in your stomach, being asked to speak and saying yes. Imagine your next presentation, interview or speech being something you look forward to instead of dread. That's what Toastmasters helps you build – steadily, supportively and at your own pace.

Visitors are always welcome. You might be surprised at what you're capable of.

East Coast Bays Toastmasters
Meets: Fortnightly on a Wednesday at 7pm at the
Marine Centre, Beachfront Lane, Browns Bay
Contact: 027 422 3685

Email contact@ecbtoastmasters.org.nz
ecbtoastmasters.org.nz

Guests are welcome to attend a meeting before deciding to join.



OUR GOAL IS TO HELP MEN LOOK AND FEEL GREAT ABOUT THEMSELVES

Local, Mustafa, the owner of the Long Bay Barber Shop. He and his staff have many years of experience.

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Tidepooling Etiquette

We love exploring the rocky shore, it is home to some incredible marine life. To help protect these creatures and their habitat we follow these 5 simple tide pooling rules:

1. Wash your hands
This removes sunscreen and oils that can be harmful to marine life
2. Watch your step
Seaweed, shells and rocks are all habitats for intertidal creatures, be careful where you step, they might be hiding where you don't expect.
3. Be careful of the incoming tide
Look at the tide table for your area before you go and



allow enough time to get back safely with an incoming tide. Always tell someone where, what and when you are going out.

4. Observe
You can watch marine life from afar limiting our impact on them, and see how they all move and interact in a tidepool
5. Three fingers
If you are going to interact, ensure you are gentle and use 3 fingers to avoid damaging their gentle skin or shells.

MERC offers tidepool investigation programmes for groups who want a guide along the way. Visit MERC.org.nz to book or to find upcoming public rock pooling events. Hope to see you out there!



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Getting There

For long-time Torbay and Okura resident, Jo Bowler, writing has been a life-long pastime. Published books of her original children's poems have been widely used in New Zealand and Australian schools and her short stories previously broadcast on national radio here as well as the BBC World Service.

Last month saw the London publication of "Getting There" – a collection of new short stories.

The themes are varied. In the aftermath of Covid, a man who has lost everything takes to the road. An environmental protestor resists temptation, a grandmother shares the secrets of plants, and a frustrated loyalty card customer has had enough!

There is satire on the weight loss industry, retirement villages and an odd little tale about a celebrity chef.

Jo's first job as a school-leaver was as a cadet reporter at The Auckland Star, an evening newspaper that ceased publication in 1991 after 120 years.



With motherhood, she retrained as a teacher and has since had a long career in education across all levels.

"Getting There" will be available at PaperPlus Browns Bay



Autumn Immunity Reset

As the cooler months arrive, it's the perfect time to give your immune system a seasonal reset. At **Max Health**, we offer a wide range of natural immune support including Vitamin C, Zinc, Vitamin D, Elderberry, Echinacea and medicinal mushrooms, along with soothing cough liquids and nourishing herbal teas. Pictured are a few of our favourites.

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The Adventure You Live For Awaits – Antarctica with Seabourn & Shore Travel

For many travellers, Antarctica represents the ultimate journey, a place of raw beauty, extraordinary wildlife and landscapes that feel almost untouched by time. With Seabourn, exploring this remarkable region becomes an ultra-luxury expedition designed to inspire curiosity and awe.

In the 2027–2028 season, Seabourn's purpose-built expedition ships,



Seabourn Pursuit and Seabourn Venture, will sail extraordinary itineraries ranging from 10 to 25 days. These voyages explore some of the most remote and spectacular regions of the Southern Hemisphere, including South Georgia, the Chilean Fjords and the Falkland Islands. Along the way, guests may encounter vast penguin colonies, towering ice shelves and some of the most dramatic scenery on Earth.

Life on board blends exploration with exceptional comfort. Each day begins with briefings from the expert expedition team, sharing insights into wildlife, weather conditions and the day's discoveries. Informal Fireside Chats offer stories from seasoned explorers, helping guests connect more deeply with this extraordinary environment. Signature moments include the exhilarating Polar Plunge or the elegant "Caviar on the Ice," where Champagne and caviar are served against a backdrop of glittering glaciers.

Shore Travel is delighted to host an



11-night Antarctica expedition departing 14 February 2028 aboard Seabourn Pursuit. Personally hosted by Jason and Mary Buckley, this special journey combines Seabourn's expedition expertise with the reassurance of travelling alongside experienced hosts.

With fares from AUD \$25,625 per person (share twin), including a pre-cruise hotel stay, this remarkable voyage offers travellers the adventure of a lifetime in one of the world's most extraordinary destinations.

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Navigating the Future at Long Bay Primary School

As part of our recently revised strategic plan, we've adopted a new vision that reflects both our local environment and our aspirations for our students: Explore the Depths, Navigate the Waves.

This vision was the result of extensive consultation with our students, staff, and community. Our challenge was to give life to these words in the classroom. During our



teacher-only days in January, we hatched a plan. We challenged our teachers with a simple prompt: Create a visual representation of what this means to your class and see what surfaces.

Our Year 3 students, currently immersed in a unit of inquiry about the ocean, took to the concept immediately. In Room

Saturday 25th April 2026

ANZAC DAY

LEST WE FORGET - 25 APRIL

SERVICES WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS:

**Combined North Shore RSA
Dawn Parade and Service**

Fall in 05:15 Corner of Anzac Road and
Beachfront Lane, Browns Bay
Service 6:00 at War Memorial, Manly Esplanade

**East Coast Bays Memorial
Parade and Service**

Fall in 08:00 Corner of Anzac Road and
Beachfront Lane, Browns Bay
Service 8:45 at War Memorial, Manly Esplanade

For more information contact ecbrsa@xtra.co.nz or 094788033



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10, the metaphor took a touching and literal turn.

While working on a class mural, Mrs Di Edgoose (the teacher in Room 10) asked a student who the diver was, the student replied:

"It's you, Mrs Edgoose. So when we are stuck in the net, you can swim down and free us."

The very next day a student struggling with a difficult task approached Di and said, "I am exploring the depths of this mathematics problem, but I am stuck in the net. Can you please help me?"

It turns out that when you provide children with a powerful metaphor and the space to explore it, they find a range of ways to communicate their thinking that we hadn't even considered.

The general consensus across Long Bay Primary is becoming clear:



Exploring the Depths: Diving deep into our learning to discover new things and challenge ourselves.

Navigating the Waves: Building the resilience to handle whatever life throws at us.

As we move forward, our next goal is to ensure our wider community is on board. We invite you to join us as we navigate these waves together, ensuring every student has the tools to dive deep and the support to break free from any "net" they may encounter.



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Anzac Biscuits

Anzac biscuits originated during World War I (circa 1915–1920) as a nutritious, durable treat sent by families to Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) soldiers.

Known initially as “soldier’s biscuits” or “eggless cookies” to survive long voyages, they were renamed in honour of the corps, with early recipes appearing around 1915–1921 in New Zealand and Australia.

- **Wartime Purpose:** Because eggs were scarce and shipping was slow, these biscuits were designed to last without spoiling, providing a taste of home to soldiers in Egypt and Gallipoli.
- **Evolution of the Name:** Before being called “Anzac biscuits,” they were known as “crispies,” “soldier’s biscuits,” or “nutties”.
- It also appears that these biscuits were also made and sold in New Zealand as fund raisers.

Ingredients

- ½ cup Plain flour
- ⅓ cup sugar
- ⅔ cup finely desiccated coconut
- ¾ cup rolled oats



- 50g butter
- 1 Tbsp golden syrup
- ½ tsp baking soda
- 2 Tbsp boiling water

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C. Line a baking tray with baking paper.
2. Mix together flour, sugar, coconut and rolled oats.
3. Melt butter and golden syrup. Dissolve baking soda in the boiling

water and add to butter and golden syrup. Stir butter mixture into the dry ingredients.

4. Place level tablespoonfuls of mixture onto cold greased trays and flatten with a fork. These don't spread as they bake so you can place them close together.
5. Bake for about 15 minutes or until golden. Leave on the tray for 5 minutes then place on a wire rack to cool.

ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day, held on April 25th each year, commemorates the 1915 landing of Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) soldiers on the Gallipoli Peninsula. It honours the courage, sacrifice, and suffering of all service personnel who have died in war, served in conflict, or participated in peacekeeping missions.

Key Aspects of ANZAC Day:

- **The Gallipoli Landing (1915):** Marks the first major military action for Australian and New Zealand forces in WWI, representing a defining moment for national identity.
- **Commemoration of Service:** While it began to honour the fallen of WWI, it now covers



- all wars and conflicts involving New Zealanders and Australians
- **Values of ANZAC:** Celebrates the qualities of endurance, bravery, and friendship exhibited by soldiers during the Gallipoli campaign.
- **Traditions:** Characterized by dawn

services (referencing the time of the landing), parades, and laying wreaths.

The day is a solemn occasion focusing on reflection, honouring the fallen, and supporting returned service personnel.

A veteran from the First World War buried in Torbay

James Hurnall Wemyss was born in Doncaster, England, in 1874. He emigrated to what became South Africa and served in the South African war in the 1899 to 1902 period. Wemyss later described himself as a member of Rimmington's Scouts, also known as Damant's Horse, which was a light horse unit in the British Army.

Following his time in South Africa, Wemyss moved to New Zealand and in August 1916 he enlisted in the Wellington Infantry Regiment, describing himself as working as a labourer in Martinborough. Following his training he left New Zealand for the First World War in C Company as a sergeant. Fighting on the Western Front, he was wounded in August 1917 and returned to New Zealand to recuperate in Rotorua before being discharged in 1918.

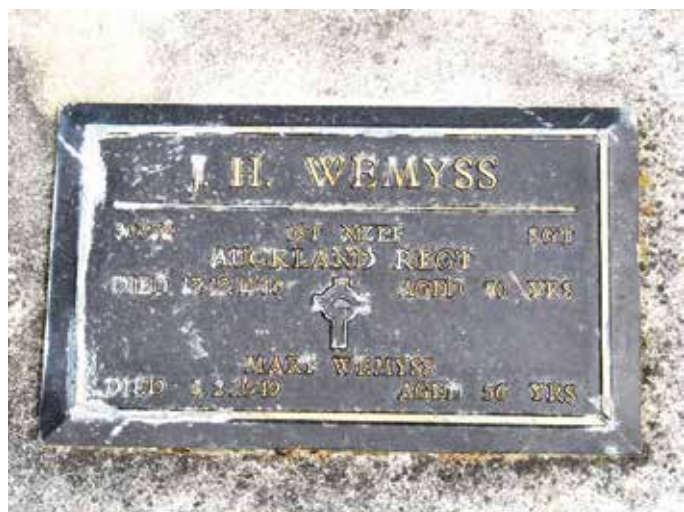
On 28 May 1919, he married Mary Langdon (1893-1949), at Auckland's St Matthew-in-the-city, and they lived in Stanley Street (later renamed Cambridge Terrace) in

Devonport. At that time, he gave his occupation as a farmer. In the early 1920s the family moved to Whenuapai and in the late 1920s and early 1930s they lived in Gladstone Road in Northcote. In the mid-1930s the family then moved to Batkin Avenue in Avondale, where he still described himself as a farmer.

In the late 1930s, the family moved to farm in the Browns Bay area, where the East Coast Bays Returned Soldiers' Club was centered. That Club had been formed in 1933. Although a newcomer to the district, Wemyss was sufficiently well regarded to be elected President of that Club from 1940 to 1941 and then again from 1945 until his death on 17 December 1946. The family's address in 1946 was in Rothesay Bay Road, and both James and Mary are buried in St Mary's Pioneer Cemetery in Torbay.

David Verran.

Image from www.findagrave.com.



Our AGM will be held on Saturday May 16th at 2pm. at the Vaughan Homestead. More details will be in the May Newsletter and on our website.

A reminder that you can become a member as a supporter (Single \$15 Double \$25. Phone us or go into our website for a copy of the Membership Form.

We have been opening the Vaughan Homestead on Saturday afternoons. After Easter we will open when we can but not as regularly. Please check our website to see what is available for hiring.

President – Bill Ellis Secretary: Barbara Ellis - 473 6482 Email: thsinc22@gmail.com Website: torbayhistoricalsociety.n8.nz

We Will Remember Them



Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the
sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

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Erica's Editorial

Hon. Erica Stanford

MP for East Coast Bays | Minister of Education | Minister of Immigration

EDUCATION UPDATE

A new maths check for Year 2 students will measure progress and ensure young learners get the support they need early on.

Research shows maths understanding in students' early years is strongly linked to future success in the subject.

The Year 2 maths check, delivered through our Make it Count maths action plan, is a short assessment that provides teachers a snapshot to understand how learners are progressing in number concepts by the end of Year 2.



The maths check is now moving through early stages, starting with the trial phase across 100 schools, ensuring our littlest learners will get their needs identified early in their school journeys. We intend this to be available to all schools by the end of the year.

The check is a short, one-on-one, 15-minute assessment that will provide teachers a snapshot on progress. This will contribute to the new school reporting for parents alongside other progress checks, including the Phonics checks for new entrants.

Each school will receive teacher guidance, recording sheets for assessments, student booklets, printed materials, and hand-held maths items supporting testing.

HOUSING INTENSIFICATION

There has been a lot of talk about housing intensification in Auckland. Recently, Hon Chris Bishop stated in a press release:

As New Zealand's largest city, Auckland is the engine room of our economy. To ensure it can grow and meet the needs of its increasing population with affordable housing, there needs to be capacity to build more homes.

Aucklanders have rightly raised concerns about housing intensification in suburban areas and we have listened.

Changes to Auckland Council's Plan Change 120 have been announced.

The main change is a 23% reduction in the housing capacity Auckland Council needs to make available – that's around 400,000 fewer homes than originally planned for.

It means much less intensification in Auckland's suburbs.

Where we build matters – growth and intensification should happen where it makes sense, including in the CBD, in town centres, and along transport routes. This revised plan does exactly that.

For more details and explanation, go to www.beehive.govt.nz and search 'Speech to Committee for Auckland'.

NEED HELP?

Navigating government departments can be difficult. If you're having problems, contact the office and my team will do what they can to help.

Take care,
Erica

@ ecboffice@parliament.govt.nz www.EricaStanfordMP.co.nz

(09) 478 0207 1/8 Beach Front Lane, Browns Bay

National

U3A Browns Bay

Live Like you will die tomorrow.
Keep Learning like you will live for ever.

U3A, an organization for older folk is unique in that in

our Special Interest Groups, every member has a turn at doing the research and presenting material to friends in the group. What starts out being a bit scary, becomes our challenge and a great opportunity to learn.

U3a Brown's Bay has, at present, 23 such groups. Groups come and go. If you have interest in a particular topic and enough buy in from members, another group can start.

The International Studies Group

This Special Interest group has 18 enthusiastic members. Each monthly meeting we have a member sharing a study of a country they may have recently visited and giving us a



flavour of the country by looking initially at its geographical location. Then the study will look at the economics of the country; how people earn their living; the history of possible occupations; the role in World Wars. Following on the study may cover the predominant religion and relationship with neighbouring countries. Important politicians or Presidents are described and their influence on the country explored

Recent topics covered Mediterranean Crete, France, Norway and Japan

Members also choose to make a study of a city anywhere in the world and recent studies have covered Gisborne, Vladivostok and Portsmouth.

We have also discussed current issues such as the various wars that are raging and how our leaders, including Donald Trump are managing. This is a lively group covering topics to enable us to learn and understand more about the rest of the world.

If you are interested in this organisation, look for more information on our website:-u3abb.nz



LOOKING TO SELL?

Having lived and worked locally for over 30 years, we are the team with the knowledge and expertise for selling in today's market.

Experience Does Count!



What to Do After a Car Crash – Guidance from New Zealand Police

A car crash can be sudden and unsettling but knowing what to do can help keep everyone safe and ensure the incident is handled properly. New Zealand Police encourage all drivers to follow a simple, calm process.

1. Check safety first

Make sure you and your passengers are okay. If anyone is injured, call 111 immediately. If it's safe, move vehicles out of live traffic to prevent further risk. Use hazard lights, and place warning triangles if you have them.

2. Exchange details

By law, all involved drivers must share their name, address, and vehicle registration. If someone refuses to provide details or leaves the scene, contact Police. Avoid arguments or assigning blame on the roadside—focus on gathering accurate information.

3. Record what happened

Photograph the vehicles, damage, and the scene, including road conditions and signage. These details help both Police and insurers later. Note the time, location, and any witnesses.

4. Know when to report the crash

You must report a crash to Police when:

- Someone is injured.
- Another party refuses to give details.

- A driver appears impaired.
- There is significant property damage, and you cannot locate the owner (e.g., hitting a parked car).

Minor noninjury crashes can be reported online via the NZ Police 105 website.

5. Contact your insurer

Notify your insurance provider as soon as possible. They'll guide you through assessments, repairs, and any excesses payable. Photos and notes you collected will help speed up the process.

6. What happens afterwards

Police may follow up with statements, especially in injury crashes. Insurers will assess the circumstances and determine liability. Repairs are usually arranged through approved workshops.

Staying calm, gathering information, and knowing when to contact Police ensures everyone is protected. Keep this guide somewhere handy—being prepared is one of the best ways to stay safe on our roads.

*Constable Simon FOX SFDU46
Browns Bay Community Officer
Auckland, New Zealand Police*



Supporting local business success



Starting or growing a business comes with both opportunities and risks. Our Albany-based Commercial and Business team can help you navigate both.

Our commercially astute team advises on all aspects of business law, from setting up a new company and reviewing contracts to commercial leases, shareholder and franchise agreements. With clear, pragmatic advice, we'll help you make informed decisions that protect your business and position it for growth.

Meet our Albany team:



Brett Abraham
Partner



Emma Boad
Partner



Kristy Jones
Senior Associate



Natasha Allen
Senior Associate

Call our Albany office on 09 9856900 to arrange a confidential appointment or visit denhambramwell.co.nz to learn more.

Denham Bramwell Lawyers, Albany
Level 2, 51 Corinthian Drive, Albany
law@denhambramwell.co.nz
denhambramwell.co.nz

Torbay Garden Club

Our flower of the month was the dahlia.

It was a delight and a privilege for those of us who visited Graham Milne's magnificent collection of tuberous begonias in late February. This is one of the largest collections in New Zealand and is currently housed at his home in Hillcrest, which sits on a quarter acre section of beautiful covenanted native bush. Tall totara, puriri and tree ferns create a peaceful, calming atmosphere far from the city hubbub. After admiring the beautiful begonia blooms staged on tiered shelving and cascading from sturdy supports, Graham provided a welcome morning tea while he spoke to us of the intricacies of begonia breeding and care. He has specialised in developing new hybrids, particularly those with scent, stripes and even spots! Some of these have received world renown. Sadly, Graham is gifting his entire collection to the Wellington Botanic Gardens where a new pavilion will be built to house them to their best advantage. There they will be on display for all to admire.

At our meeting in early March, we acknowledged Graham's 80th birthday with a small cake and a beautiful bouquet of flowers picked from Jo Price's garden and arranged by her. In honour of the many years Graham has so expertly judged and commented on our exhibits, he was also awarded an Honorary Membership of our club. Our AGM followed, when we thanked our retiring secretary, Kim Green and welcomed two new committee members, Lionel Lester, and Jenny Fowlie as secretary. We then watched an interesting video on four different methods of propagating lily bulbs.



The flower of the month was the dahlia, and there was a colourful display of decorative, water lily, cactus and pompom dahlias on show. We were delighted to welcome four new members to our club at this meeting; if you, too, would like to be part of this friendly, welcoming group, please email torbaygardenclub@gmail.com.



In the garden in April:

Keep planting brassicas – punnets rather than seed if you want them for winter dishes. Sow peas, sugar snaps, and broad beans. Feed and water citrus trees. Sow or plant direct alyssum, aquilegia, calendula, cornflower, honeywort, Russell lupin, statice, stocks and sweet pea. Plant bulbs – narcissus, freesias, anemone and ranunculus. Tulips and hyacinths should be chilled for 6 weeks in the fridge. This is an important month for dividing and planting lily bulbs. Now is a good time to take cuttings from trees, shrubs, climbers and perennials.



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

Plant Sale

from 10am Sat 28th March

Come and find us outside
Torbay Pharmacy for a bargain.
Plants, Flowers and more!

Cash Sales or
bank payment
available



<https://torbaygardenclub.co.nz>

Smile – say **cheese**

Everyone loves cheese and cooking with cheese. It is so versatile and a great way to use “older” cheese.

Cheese scones

Ingredients

3 cups Self raising flour (sifted)
 ¾ cup grated cheese
 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese.
 ¼ tsp salt and pepper
 ¼ tsp mustard powder
 75g butter
 1 ¼ cups milk
 Egg to glaze

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 220°C. Grease a baking tray.
2. Sift the flour, mustard powder, pepper and salt into a bowl.
3. Rub in the butter with your fingertips until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.
4. Add the milk and quickly mix with a table knife to a soft dough. Place the dough onto the floured baking tray



Add cheese to the mixture.

5. Working quickly, pat the dough out to 2cm thickness. With a cutter, cut it into 12 even-sized pieces, then separate the scones to allow 2cm space between them. Brush the tops with beaten egg.
6. Before baking, top each scone with a little more grated cheese. (Parmesan is really good to use for this).
7. Bake for 10 minutes or until golden brown. Place on a wire rack to cool, wrapped in a clean tea towel to keep them soft.

Cheese and onion quiche

Ingredients

320g pack ready rolled shortcrust pastry
 1 white onion, chopped and sauted
 4 eggs
 250ml whole milk
 150g cheddar cheese, grated



Method

1. Roll out the pastry into a shape that's bigger than the flan tin. (I picked up my square flan tin in the Op Shop for \$1) Gently lay the pastry into the tin and press carefully into the base and sides. Trim. Chill in the fridge for 30 mins.
2. Heat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas 6. Place a sheet of baking parchment and line the tin, ensuring it goes over the edges. Fill with baking beans, all the way up the sides of the tin. Bake for 15-20 mins. Remove the beans and parchment and bake for a further 5-10 mins until lightly golden and sandy to the touch. If the pastry has puffed up, gently press it down using a cold, metal spoon.
3. While the pastry is baking, whisk together the eggs and milk in a jug. Season well with salt and black pepper.
4. Reduce the oven temperature to 180°C/160°C fan/gas 4. Place the flan tin on a baking sheet and scatter the onions evenly over the base. Sprinkle over most of the grated cheddar and pour over the egg mixture. Top with the remainder of the cheese and bake for 25-30 mins, until set and lightly golden.

Cheese Straws

Ingredients

375g plain flour
 pinch salt
 225g butter, diced
 150g mature cheddar, grated
 50g freshly grated Parmesan
 pinch English mustard powder



Method

1. Sift the flour and a pinch of salt into a bowl. Using your fingertips, rub in the butter until all the lumps are gone and the texture resembles fine breadcrumbs.
2. Stir in the cheese and mustard powder. Add 3–5 tablespoons cold water and mix to a firm dough (you may not need all the water).
3. Wrap in cling film or a food bag and chill in the fridge for 30 minutes.
4. Preheat the oven to 190°C/170°C Fan/Gas 5.
5. Line a baking sheet with baking paper. Roll out the dough to a square and cut into straws.
6. Top with Parmesan cheese bake for 10–15 minutes, until crisp.
7. Leave to cool on the tray then either serve immediately, or store in an airtight container for up to 3 days.



Why choose us for your child?

We have an extremely stable team of 14 qualified teachers with a combined 120+ years of experience.



Sustainability:

We have a Zero Waste award as a result of focussing on children engaging with nature in our gardens (no plastic grass here), as well as sustainable natural resources, eco nappies and a bokashi system for food waste.

We do not offer big enrolment discounts as we believe quality is worth so much more. Over time you will save money through our all inclusive approach, our holiday/sick day discounts and not paying fees for public holidays. We were awarded "Excelling" in all areas in our last Education Review Office report.



Children's Ark 282 Glenvar Road, Torbay

www.childrensark.co.nz

09 473 0242

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Euro Patisserie 1028 Beach Rd. Torbay 09 473 7535

New Children's Drama Classes Starting Soon!!! Come Join The Fun!!

For the last two years we have felt the lack of Jacqué Mandeno's theatre and voice classes.

Since she retired, we have been keen to find a new teacher, and we are delighted to announce that the very creative and experienced Jenny Whisken will soon (from April) be running her classes in the Gate Theatre at Torbay Community Hall.

Jenny was practically born on stage, is almost always to be found rehearsing and / or performing in a play on the North Shore, and she has decades of experience teaching drama to children. Jenny has taken a lead role in several of our plays at Torbay Theatre, as well as at the Pumphouse and elsewhere, and she is looking forward not only to running classes but also to putting on children's shows – another fixture missing from the Torbay Theatre calendar for the last two or three years.

Jenny's classes will be for kids of all ages (4-year-olds to 18-year-olds). Some adults may also be interested in an acting class. A show will be presented in July and another in November/early December as part of her holiday program. Classes will focus on social skills, communication, self-confidence-building and



Photos from some of Jenny's children's shows.



creativity through acting and movement. Jenny will explore literature and music as part of her programme to encourage an appreciation of art and performance art.

Contact Jenny on 021505917 or jennywhisken@gmail.com for more information.

Our AGM and Club Night were both held in March, with the new committee voted in and already active, and an entertaining night held by all at Club Night.

Congratulations to Dylan Webb and

Mikaela Ellwood (now Webb!!), who got married in March. We have got to know Dylan over the last few years, for his acting, musical and organisational skills, as he has taken major roles in shows, organised shows and murder mystery evenings, and played a bewildering variety of musical instruments, as well as serving on the theatre Committee. We now look forward to more creative collaboration with the couple, as we welcome Mikaela with her astonishing creativity and expertise into our theatre family.

Backstage Club: As always, the gang meets at the theatre every Wednesday morning from 10-12 – come join them!

For more details, or to join: www.torbaytheatre.com

See also: Facebook/Insta, or ph 0210-294-0630
35 Watea Rd, Torbay

Want to know more about the Christian faith? 想了解更多关于基督教信仰的知识吗？

Come to our Alpha Course
Thursday 16th April 7.15pm

请来参加我们的Alpha课程
4月16日 (周四) 晚上7:15

Alpha



61, Fitzwilliam Drive, Torbay
for more details call 09 473 3259

欲了解更多详情，请致电
021 202 9858

Culture, Conservation, Community Connections at East Coast Bays Library

This month, we're highlighting World of Cultures, EcoFest, Conservation Week and Anzac Day.

Let's celebrate our diversity, remember our past, and protect our environment.

Come and engage in activities for all ages with interactive displays, pop in sessions and school holiday events for the whole whānau.

Note: We will be closed the following days to observe Easter and Anzac Day public holidays: Friday 3rd, Monday 6th, Saturday 25th and Monday 27th.

Peruvian Culture Movie screening

Thursday 2 April 5.30pm – 7pm

Enjoy a free movie screening (shared via Beamafilm) about the remarkable life and practices of an 84-year-old Peruvian Shaman (healer).

Love Food, Hate Waste Workshop

Wednesday 22 April 3.30pm – 5pm

Join Sarah from the Compost Collective for this free

workshop. Gain advice on avoiding food waste, tips for making the most of seasonal produce and pickling your excess vegetables.

Bring some small clean jars if you'd like a sample.

Booking is essential: <https://compostcollective.org.nz/events>

Pest-Free Workshop

Friday 24 April 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Join Restore Hibiscus and Bays for a free and informative workshop for all ages to discover how to minimise pests in your back yard.

Community Corner with Restore Hibiscus and Bays

Sunday 26 April 10am – 1pm

Connect and chat with local eco champions Restore Hibiscus and Bays. Discover their environmental work, and what you can do to help.

Take-away information and pest trap demonstrations and pest scavenger hunts included.

AI Talk for Families

Saturday 11 April 10am – 12pm

A Learning Community Hub event with Korea NZ Cultural Association to educate parents on how to help their children's learning, introducing practical home learning strategies and basic AI tools.

Children are welcome to attend with an adult.

ANZAC Day Commemoration

Add a poppy to our ANZAC tree of remembrance. View our display showcasing heritage resources available from Auckland Libraries website.

Terrific Tots on Thursday 23 April will be ANZAC Day themed.

School Holiday Activities

Join us for an EcoFest inspired programme where children of all ages can join in creative, eco-friendly activities.

Enjoy Eco-friendly Crafts, Pyjama Storytime, Illustration Workshop, Scavenger Hunts and more. Become an eco-warrior today!

Don't miss our special guest event:

Horses & Us Author Talk

Saturday 11 April 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Johanna Emeny shares her new book "Horses & Us" featuring 23 true stories from across Aotearoa. Buy a book and have it signed.

Ages 9 - 15 years

For more information on upcoming events, programmes, and library updates, visit East Coast Bays Library's Facebook page, Our Auckland, and Auckland Libraries website.

Grab our printed monthly newsletter, or subscribe by emailing ecblibraryevents@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

East Coast Library, 8 Bute rd, Browns Bay

More Than Just Car Loans: Helping Local Businesses Grow

When people hear the name MTF Finance, they often think of car loans – largely thanks to the 53-year history the brand has in vehicle finance. And while vehicle lending is still a big part of what we do, many local business owners are surprised to learn that we also provide a wide range of funding solutions for small and medium-sized businesses.

At MTF Albany, we work with business owners across the North Shore who need funding to grow, invest, or simply smooth out cash flow.

For many businesses, timing is everything. An opportunity to purchase new equipment, take on a large contract, or upgrade facilities can appear quickly. Traditional lending channels can sometimes be slow or inflexible, which is where we aim to help.

Because we are locally owned and operated, we take the time to understand each business and what they are trying to achieve. Our approach is practical and relationship-driven, which allows us to look beyond just the numbers on a page.

We regularly help businesses finance equipment such as trailers, machinery, tools, and commercial vehicles, but that's only part of the picture. Increasingly, we are assisting



businesses with funding for fit-outs, technology upgrades, working capital, and even restructuring existing debt to improve cash flow.

Trades businesses, hospitality operators, service companies, and contractors are just some of the local businesses we support. Often the funding helps them take the next step – whether that's hiring staff, expanding their services, or simply having the confidence to say "yes" to new work.

One of the advantages of working with a local lender is that decisions can be made quickly and conversations are straightforward. Business owners deal with real people who understand the local market and the realities of running a business.

Small businesses are the backbone of our community. When they grow and succeed, it benefits everyone.

If you're a local business owner looking to invest in your business or explore your finance options, it's worth having a conversation. You might be surprised at what's possible.

MTF Finance Albany - Helping North Shore businesses grow with practical, local finance solution

*MTF Finance Albany – 7G Triton Drive, Rosedale
09 954 1334
albany@mtf.co.nz
mtf.co.nz/albany*




Helping North Shore businesses grow with practical, local finance solutions



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 021 0226 6192



NO.1 for a reason

Life moves in chapters, first day of school nerves, university drop-offs, first loves, weddings, babies, and eventually grandchildren racing down hallways. Through every milestone, there's always a house quietly holding it all together. The starter home with cramped bedrooms and big dreams. The upgrade with space for teenagers and their noise. The family home that becomes mission control for Christmas lunches and late night heart to hearts. And later, perhaps, the downsize, a new nest for a new season.

Homes don't just shelter our lives; they frame them, fund them, and faithfully witness every beautiful, chaotic step along the way.

Thérèse Leslie 021 022 66192 | Jiang Kou 021 087 93257 | Leigh Storey 022 685 7041

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RECENT SALES



3 Maxwellton Drive, Mairangi Bay

- Sold in 21 days
- 60 Inspections
- 6 Bidders
- Over 8000 online views



11 Nevill Road, Hobsonville Point

- Sold in 24 days
- 24 Inspections
- 3 Offers
- Over 26000 online views



1/1 Mira Place, Mairangi Bay

- Sold in 19 days
- 117 Inspections
- 5 Bidders
- Over 13000 online views



42 Oaktree Avenue, Browns Bay

- 121 Inspections
- 3 Bidders
- Sold above CV
- Over 15000 online views



In my opinion - We have to act!

The world is rapidly heating, species are going extinct, we're on the brink of disaster, and what are we doing?

I'm a year six at Torbay Primary, and I'm worried about the climate, because I've seen its effects. So many houses near the shore are at risk of coastal erosion. The massive floods in 2023 and now this January were also because of climate change.

As an example of species going extinct, here is something I learnt at the Auckland Museum Sharks Exhibition. Did you know that there are 240 species of sharks and only 8 humans die every year because of sharks, and 100 million sharks die annually, because of humans?

That means 190 sharks are killed by people every minute!

You might think sharks are scary sea creatures, but did you know that we actually REALLY need sharks to survive. If we get rid of sharks the



whole sea food chain will collapse, and humans rely on the ocean to stay alive.

Don't worry there are lots of EASY ways to help the environment. Here are the top 3 ways to personally produce less carbon.

1. Fly less, flying uses a lot of petrol, if you're going somewhere in NZ you should take the bus/bicycle or even walk.
2. Drive less, if you're planning to drive somewhere in the same city/town it would be better for the environment to either take the bus, walk or bike.
3. Eat less meat, because to make way for stock, forests are chopped down, and native animals lose their habitats and die.

If everyone at least tries to do one of these you can make a big difference.

– Valentina Llanos-Small aged 10.

Long Bay Business Directory

Cafes and Restaurants

A'ruma Exciting Malaysian food
Te Oneroa Rd 09 600 3388

Domino Pizza
55a Ridge Rd 09 9544 939

Kinfolk Café, Long Bay Village
Square - opening February

Little Café For great takeaway coffee
57 Glenvar Ridge Rd

Long Bay Fisheries
Order online and then just collect
Shop 3 88 Te Oneroa Rd 09 212 9816

Long Bay Surf Club
Dine in, Take away or delivery service.
56 Bounty Rd 09 473 0908

November café
88 Te Oneroa Way 09 473 0298

Sony Bakery Everything made fresh daily.
83 Te Oneroa Rd 09 218 5056

Sushi and Don www.marusushinz.com
88 Te Oneroa Rd 09 218 7483

Laundromat

Spin Fresh Laundromat
89 Te Oneroa Way

Hair Care

Barbers www.longbaybarbershop.co.nz
3/88 Te Oneroa Rd 09 214 3967

Health and Beauty

Dynamic Physio For all physio needs
55a Glenvar Ridge Rd 09 553 8501

Haven - Beauty and Wellness
89 Te oneroa Way 021 217 4047

Jets Gym Open 24 hours
89 Te Oneroa Way 027 298 6568

Long Bay Medical Centre
For all health care needs
55a Glenvar Ridge Rd 09 473 0063

Long Bay Nails and Beauty
Nail & waxing salon
Village Centre 09 218 9027

Unichem Long Bay Pharmacy
Quality advice and care
55a Glenvar Ridge Rd 09 553 8773

Lumino For dental health care
57 Glenvar Ridge Road 09 473 1400

Nom Original Thai Massage
55a Glenvar Ridge Rd. 021 389 991

Real Estate

Barfoot & Thompson www.barfoot.co.nz
For real estate professions.
Village Centre Sales 09 473 0712
Rental 09 473 0472

Elementum For resort style living
Village Centre www.elementum.co.nz

Harcourts For community living
mingliu.co.nz 027 519 6826

Supermarket

New World
Delivery and click and collect available
Village Centre 09 869 4577

Wine Shop

Liquorland
Large range of wines, spirits and beers
7/88 Te Oneroa Rd 09 473 0065

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**Music in Parks
LONG BAY 2026**

Our Harcourts Cooper & Co corner was buzzing, with kids lining up for face painting and having a blast playing Jianzi. We were excited to see 399 ice creams enjoyed by the Long Bay community, a small way for us to say thank you for your ongoing support!



**Long Bay College
SPORTS DAY 2026**

We were proud to be there supporting the event, serving up 339 ice creams and 24 coffees to keep everyone fuelled throughout the day! Even better, we were able to donate a portion of the proceeds back to the school.



Ming Liu

027 519 6826
ming.liu@harcourts.co.nz

Harcourts Cooper & Co

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Kelp in the Gulf

Most of the Club's competitions are based on Measure Mat photos rather than weigh-ins to encourage members to return the large Snapper to the water. The rationale is that it is a contribution to the health of the fishery as these apex breeders are the producers of huge amounts of roe (girls) and milt (boys)

The use of circle hooks when bait fishing and the use of lures are both encouraged as these techniques are more likely to result in mouth, rather than gut, hooking. There is an issue with the depth from which they are taken but the science now tells us that if taken under 12 meters the survival rate is very high, survival rate progressively deteriorates up to 25 meters. Over that it is poor.

The Gulf is experiencing a serious deforestation of kelp. While a number of factors are contributing the main culprit is Kina. Kelp is what they eat and there are a lot of Kina and they are eating a lot of kelp. Areas where healthy kelp was once prolific are now what are called Kina Barrens



No kelp to provide food and shelter for diverse marine life, to protect the coastline by dampening waves, to absorb significant amounts of carbon dioxide to help combat climate change and ocean acidification, to improve water quality by absorbing excess nutrients, to support our coastal economies through fisheries and tourism. No kelp !!!

Why? Kina have natural predators primarily the larger Snapper and Crayfish. As the numbers of both have plummeted the Kina populations have exploded.

Lots of smaller Snapper but not enough big ones.

There is work underway to try to find a way to stop this degradation. Some Kina harvesting is being done in the High Protection Areas; such as Noises and Little Barrier, but that activity can't be open ended. The long-term solution to ensure the balance is restored is with a healthy level of large Snapper and Crayfish. That should eventuate in the HPAs now they are no longer the subject of fishing pressure.

The HPAs only represent a tiny proportion of the Gulf and this issue is widespread so it is important that the large Snapper are returned to the water, if at all possible, especially in reefy areas.



Tides April 2026 (Murrays Bay)

	LOW		HIGH		LOW		HIGH		LOW	
Wed 01	01:21	0.6m	07:31	3.0m	13:49	0.6m	20:03	2.9m		
Thu 02	02:08	0.6m	08:17	3.0m	14:35	0.5m	20:48	3.0m		
Fri 03	02:51	0.5m	09:01	3.0m	15:16	0.5m	21:30	3.0m		
Sat 04	03:31	0.6m	09:42	2.9m	15:56	0.5m	22:09	3.0m		
Sun 05	03:10	0.6m	09:21	2.9m	15:33	0.6m	21:47	2.9m		
Mon 06	03:49	0.7m	10:00	2.8m	16:10	0.6m	22:25	2.9m		
Tue 07	04:29	0.8m	10:38	2.7m	16:47	0.7m	23:04	2.8m		
Wed 08	05:12	0.9m	11:18	2.7m	17:27	0.8m	23:46	2.7m		
Thu 09	05:58	0.9m	12:00	2.6m	18:10	0.9m				
Fri 10			00:33	2.6m	06:49	1.0m	12:45	2.5m	18:59	1.0m
Sat 11			01:26	2.5m	07:43	1.0m	13:37	2.5m	19:56	1.0m
Sun 12			02:24	2.5m	08:40	1.0m	14:34	2.4m	20:59	1.0m
Mon 13			03:21	2.6m	09:35	1.0m	15:35	2.5m	22:00	0.9m
Tue 14			04:14	2.7m	10:28	0.9m	16:35	2.6m	22:55	0.8m
Wed 15			05:05	2.8m	11:20	0.7m	17:30	2.7m	23:45	0.7m
Thu 16			05:54	2.9m	12:09	0.6m	18:22	2.9m		
Fri 17	00:33	0.5m	06:42	3.0m	12:58	0.4m	19:11	3.1m		
Sat 18	01:20	0.4m	07:31	3.1m	13:46	0.3m	20:00	3.2m		
Sun 19	02:08	0.4m	08:21	3.2m	14:35	0.2m	20:48	3.3m		
Mon 20	02:57	0.4m	09:11	3.2m	15:24	0.2m	21:38	3.3m		
Tue 21	03:48	0.4m	10:03	3.1m	16:13	0.2m	22:29	3.2m		
Wed 22	04:42	0.5m	10:57	3.1m	17:05	0.3m	23:23	3.1m		
Thu 23	05:40	0.6m	11:52	2.9m	17:59	0.5m				
Fri 24			00:20	3.0m	06:41	0.7m	12:49	2.8m	18:59	0.6m
Sat 25			01:21	2.9m	07:45	0.7m	13:50	2.7m	20:03	0.7m
Sun 26			02:24	2.9m	08:48	0.8m	14:54	2.7m	21:10	0.8m
Mon 27			03:24	2.8m	09:48	0.8m	15:57	2.7m	22:12	0.8m
Tue 28			04:21	2.8m	10:44	0.7m	16:56	2.7m	23:08	0.7m
Wed 29			05:13	2.8m	11:35	0.7m	17:49	2.8m	23:57	0.7m
Thu 30			06:02	2.8m	12:22	0.6m	18:37	2.9m		

Times adjusted for Daylight Saving.





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Love Grace Handbag Appeal NZ - 14 February to 8 March 2026

During this time Tracey, from UK Grocer in Browns Bay, was a collection point for this amazing charity.

Tracey is pleased to share that she had 220 bags, filled with necessities, brought into her store.

These bags are then taken to Women's refuges and given to women who have nothing because they had to leave everything behind as they got to safety.

For many women experiencing domestic violence, a handbag becomes more than an accessory.

- It holds documents.
- Phone chargers.
- Medication.
- Deodorant.
- Sanitary items.

A small sense of control in a moment that feels anything but.

The single photo is of an abuse victim



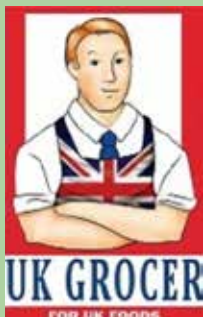
as she carried this to court.

Not because it matched her outfit.
Not because it was stylish.

But because inside it were the essentials she needed to face one of the hardest days of her life.

When you donate a filled handbag to the Love Grace Handbag Appeal NZ, you are not just giving items. You are giving dignity. Preparedness. Strength. You are saying: You are not alone.

Give a gift from home



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LONG BAY BAPTIST CHURCH

EASTER SERVICE TIMES

8pm Thur 2 April

Maundy Thursday
Service @ Long Bay
Baptist Church

10am Fri 3 April

Good Friday Service
@ Northcross Community Church

10am Sun 5 April

FAMILY EASTER CELEBRATION
@ Long Bay Baptist Church

282 Glenvar Road, Torbay
www.longbaybaptist.co.nz



Grounding
ourselves in
the good news
this Lent

2nd April

Maundy Thursday 7pm

A contemplative service with foot washing and communion
at St Mary by the Sea, 168 Deep Creek Rd.

3rd April

Holy Friday 10am

Combined churches service at Northcross Church

Holy Friday 3pm

Tenebrae service reflecting on Jesus' last hours
at St Mary by the Sea, 168 Deep Creek Rd.

5th April

Easter Sunday 6:30am

Sunrise Communion at Waiake Beach

Easter Sunday 8am/10am

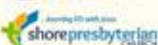
Traditional/Intergenerational services
at St Mary by the Sea, 168 Deep Creek Rd.

COMBINED GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE



EVERYONE WELCOME | Join us afterwards for hot cross buns & drinks

10AM, April 3, 2026 at Northcross Church
826A East Coast Road, Oteha



Trinity @ Waiake

Methodist Church

Easter Services

10am Sunday March 29

Palm Sunday

7pm Thursday April 2

Maundy Thursday

10am Friday April 3

Good Friday

10am Sunday April 5

Easter Sunday

Rev David Poultney

864 Beach Road, East Coast Bays

A Busy April at Albany Village Library

We're excited to introduce our new **English Conversation Corner**, on Fridays from 11:00am–12:00pm. Join our friendly librarians for a relaxed group where you can practise basic English conversation skills, build confidence, and meet new people. We welcome people from all cultures and backgrounds.

The **April school holidays** are just around the corner, and we have some fantastic activities planned for tamariki. Join us for **Rock Painting and a Scavenger Hunt** on Tuesday 7 April (10:00am–1:00pm), get crafty at our **Sewing Easter Eggs Workshop** on Thursday 9 April (10:00am–12:00pm), or create something bright at our **Suncatcher Workshop** on Wednesday 15 April (10:00am–12:00pm). See our Facebook page and visit Humanitix to book your spot, spaces can fill quickly.

The library also hosts a range of regular programmes, with adult sessions running year-round and many tamariki programs held during the school term. Adults can drop into **Digital Seniors** every Wednesday 1:00pm–3:00pm for friendly one-on-one help with devices and technology. If you'd like to practise speaking te reo Māori, join **Kōrero Mai** on Sundays from 10:00am–11:00am for relaxed conversation. Our welcoming **Book Chat** group meets the third Wednesday of each month 10:30am–12:00pm - a great way to share what you've been reading and discover new titles.

For tamariki, **Chess Club** runs Saturdays from 1:00pm–2:00pm and is perfect for beginners wanting to learn the game. Preschoolers can enjoy **Japanese Storytime** (Mondays 10:00am), **Wiggle and Rhyme** (Wednesdays 10:00am), and **Jiggle and Wriggle** (Fridays 10:00am). Budding coders can



also join **Code Club** on Saturdays from 10:00am–11:00am (enrolment required). We also host a **Bilingual French Storytime** on the last Saturday of each month at 11:00am.

For more information about library events and updates, follow us on Facebook, visit the Auckland Libraries events page, or check out OurAuckland. We look forward to seeing you at the library this April!

Albany Village library
2026 APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 7 April 10am-1pm
Rock Painting & Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday 8 April 11am-12pm
Robot Programme Design

Thursday 9 April 10am-12pm
Easter Eggs Sewing Workshop

Friday 10 April 11am-12pm
Learn about Worm Farms

Monday 13 April 11am-12pm
Japanese Special Storytime

Saint George and the Dragon

On 23rd April there is a celebration of St. George - the patron Saint of England.

Russian icon (mid 14th century), Novgorod

The earliest known record of St George and the dragon occurs in the 11th century, in a Georgian source reaching Europe in the 12th century. George's death was at the hands of Dacian, and around the year 287.

According to tradition, a fierce dragon was causing panic in the city of Silene in Libya when George arrived there. To keep the creature from ravaging



the city, the inhabitants gave it two sheep each day, but when the sheep were no longer enough, they were forced to

sacrifice people chosen by the townsfolk themselves.

Eventually the king's daughter was selected, and no one was willing to take her place. George saved her by slaying the dragon with a lance. The king was so grateful that he offered George treasures as a reward for saving his daughter's life, but George refused and urged him to give them to the poor instead. The townspeople were so astonished by what they witnessed that they all became Christians and were baptised.

Miniature from a 13th-century Passio Sancti Georgii (Verona)

North Shore Business Savvy Badger Puts Customer Service First

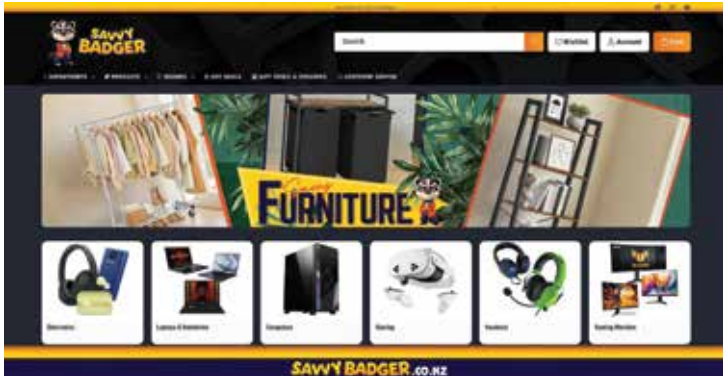
In an age of faceless online shopping and automated service desks, one North Shore business is taking a more personal approach.

Savvy Badger is a locally owned New Zealand e-commerce business built on a simple philosophy: offer a carefully selected range of quality products and back it up with genuine customer service.

Founded by Jan and Darryl, Savvy Badger began with a shared belief that online retail doesn't have to feel impersonal. Instead of simply listing thousands of products and leaving customers to navigate them alone, the team focuses on offering thoughtful recommendations and real support.

"We wanted to create a business where customers feel like they're dealing with real people," the Savvy Badger team says. "Great products matter, but great service is what people remember."

Operating from Auckland's North Shore, the business has grown steadily through word-of-mouth recommendations and loyal customers who appreciate supporting a local New Zealand company. Rather than relying on big marketing



campaigns, Savvy Badger has built its reputation through positive customer experiences and genuine engagement with the community.

The business offers a range of practical and lifestyle products chosen for their quality and usefulness. The team takes pride in helping customers find the right solution rather than simply making a sale.

For the founders, being part of the local community is central to the journey.

"We're proud to be a New Zealand-owned business and to be building something from right here on the Shore," they say. "There's something special about supporting local businesses and knowing the people behind them."

As Savvy Badger continues to grow its online presence across New Zealand, the team remains focused on the values that started it all: honest advice, quality products, and good old-fashioned customer service.

As more New Zealanders look to support local businesses, Savvy Badger hopes its approach to honest advice and genuine service will continue to resonate with customers across the country.

VAUGHAN STREAM, LONG BAY
THIRD SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH
10AM - 12PM
Meet opposite Dynamic Physio

✓ Sunday 19th April
✓ Sunday 17th May
✓ Sunday 21st June

Join our volunteer working bees to transform the Vaughans Stream corridor:

- Weeding
- Planting
- Managing pest plants
- Connect with locals & enjoy the environment



Facebook Event
longbay.nz/vst2026



Restore
Hibiscus & Bays

RESTORATION WORK

Many New Changes at the CAB Browns Bay

Over the past month we have seen a few changes at the Browns Bay Citizens Advice Bureau. These are detailed below.

New Manager

Sally Galea, has just completed her first month as Manager at the Citizens Advice Bureau in Browns Bay. Over the past 18 months, Sally worked at the Citizens Advice Bureau in Wellsford, including a six-month maternity cover contract as Branch Manager. During the remainder of her time at CAB Wellsford, she served as the Community Liaison Facilitator, working closely with local community groups to help ensure residents were supported, particularly where certain services or facilities were limited or unavailable.

At CAB Browns Bay, we are fortunate to have a wonderful team of experienced, well-trained volunteers who are dedicated to empowering people with information and guidance, helping them understand their options and to make informed decisions about their lives and lifestyles. Sally is thoroughly enjoying her role and having the opportunity to work within the Browns Bay community.

New Premises (location)

The Citizens Advice Bureau Browns Bay is now located at 1-5 Clyde Road, Browns Bay (on the beach side of the road, opposite Woolworths). The move was necessitated due to the fact that the former location (Browns Bay Community Centre) has closed for renovation work to be carried out. This process could take up to 18 months to complete.

New Opening Hours

We are now open on Saturday mornings from 10:00am until 1:00pm. This decision was taken so that we were able to cater to clients who were working during the weekdays and found it difficult to come into the Bureau. Our weekday hours remain 9:00am – 3:00pm, Monday – Friday. The Takapuna branch of the CAB is now also open on Sundays from 10:00am until 12:30pm.

Many people ask “what does the CAB do?”. The following is a list of some of the issues we have counselled over the past few months. The list does not cover everything that our interviewers have been trained in.

- Residential tenancy including disputes
- Fences and boundaries
- Employment contracts and conditions
- Consumer Guarantees Act
- Access/custody/guardianship
- Separation and dissolution
- Employment disputes
- General immigration queries.

If you have an issue that you would like resolved, pop in or contact one of our friendly volunteers.

Citizens Advice Bureau Browns Bay

Te Pou Whakawhirinaki o Aotearoa

Phone: 09 479 2222 or 021 896 985

Email: manager.brownsbay@cab.org.nz

1-5 Clyde Road, Browns Bay, Auckland 0630

NOW Open Weekends!

Need help with a tricky situation? Do you work during the week?

Well you can now visit either **CAB Browns Bay** on Saturdays or **CAB Takapuna** on Sundays.

We have got you covered and will get you sorted. Our service is **FREE!**

CAB Browns Bay
SATURDAYS
10am-1pm
&
CAB Takapuna
SUNDAYS
10am- 12.30pm

CAB BROWNS BAY

Address : 1-5 Clyde Road, Browns Bay (opposite Woolworths Beachside)

Hours : Mon - Fri 9am-3pm & Saturday 10am-1pm

Phone: 479 2222

CAB TAKAPUNA

Address : Community Services Building, 7 The Strand, Takapuna

Hours : Mon - Thurs 9.30am-3.30pm & Fri 9.30am-12.30pm,
Sunday 10am-12.30pm

Phone: 486 3139

Citizens Advice Bureau

Ngā Pou Whakawhirinaki o Aotearoa



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Sales Associate - Team Emerson

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kristal.west@harcourts.co.nz



Things to do at Easter in Auckland

Easter in Auckland offers a mix of family-friendly events and autumnal outdoor activities.

Auckland Easter Show at the Showgrounds (April 2–6) featuring carnival rides and entertainment.

Other highlights include egg hunts at the Auckland War Memorial Museum, Butterfly Creek's Golden Egg Hunt, and the Howick Historical Village Easter Extravaganza.

Top Things to Do at Easter in Auckland 2026

Auckland Easter Show: Held at the ASB Showgrounds, featuring carnival rides, agricultural displays, petting zoos, and a massive egg hunt, with the event promising more excitement.



Easter Egg Hunts & Trails:

Auckland Museum: Follow clues through the galleries to win a chocolate hamper.

Butterfly Creek: Hunt for golden eggs and see live hatching displays.



Howick Historical Village: Features a traditional Easter egg hunt and historical fun, including a "bunny training" show.

Family-Friendly Events:

SkyCity: Meet the Easter Bunny in the Atrium from April 17-21, 2026.

Good Planet: Easter Eggstravaganza featuring games and sustainability themes.

Maritime Museum: Decorate a pop-up seabird hēki (egg) card.

Outdoor Adventures:

Island Day Trips: Take a ferry to Rangitoto or Waiheke Island for hiking, ocean views, and jazz events.

Regional Parks: Enjoy the autumn weather with a walk or picnic in the Waitākere Ranges or local waterfront areas.



SkyCity Easter Bunny Schedule

From Tuesday 1 April to Tuesday 22 April, our atrium will be transformed into a magical Easter wonderland with amazing Easter theming to delight all guests.

Mark your calendars to meet our SkyCity Easter Bunny in the Atrium handing out sweet treats.

Thursday 17 April: 4pm - 7pm

Friday 18 April: 11am - 2pm & 4pm - 7pm

Saturday 19 April: 11am - 2pm & 4pm - 7pm

Sunday 20 April: 11am - 2pm & 4pm - 7pm

Monday 21 April: 11am - 2pm

Don't miss this egg-citing Easter celebration!



We have been assisting individuals and companies develop good financial principles and planning for over 30 years. We are a family business that care!

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- *Insurance - Income and disability cover*
 - *Wills - new and updates*
 - *Health Insurance*
 - *Life Insurance*
 - *Kiwi Saver*
- *Home/Contents/Vehicle & Liability Insurance*

Details matter

Analie Swanepoel
Tel: 09 479 1095 · 021 290 0449
Email: analie@kingdomfs.co.nz

Rinette Swanepoel
Tel: 021 0260 3544
Email: rinette@kingdomfs.co.nz
www.kingdomfs.co.nz

The sound of water in the garden is so soothing



It doesn't matter how big, or small, your garden is there is room for a water feature. To hear the sound of water in the garden takes the pleasure of being outside to another dimension.

Unichem 
Torbay Pharmacy

Unichem Torbay Pharmacy
 Phone 473 9629 Fax 473 0730

1040 Beach Road, Torbay
 Email info@torbaypharmacy.co.nz

GET AHEAD OF THE COLD AND FLU SEASON

Stay well this winter with **Buccaline**, a trusted immune-support tablet designed to help your body prepare for the colder months.



Buccaline is an oral bacterial lysate vaccine designed to help the immune system better defend against common respiratory infections. Taken before and during winter, it exposes the body to inactivated bacteria associated with illnesses like bronchitis, sinusitis, and some throat infections, helping stimulate immune readiness. This can reduce the frequency, severity, or duration of respiratory illnesses for some people.

Because winter often brings increased circulation of cold-weather infections and more time indoors, supporting immune defenses in advance can be beneficial. Taking Buccaline as directed before the peak season may help the body respond more effectively to germs commonly encountered during the colder months.

Many people use Buccaline each year as part of their winter wellness routine to support resilience and recovery. Easy to take and widely trusted, Buccaline helps you stay active, healthy, and ready to enjoy the season without missing out due to winter illnesses.

A single course of Buccaline provides up to about 3 months of protection after you complete the 3-day dosing schedule.

Buccaline is a Pharmacist Only Medicine so consult one of our friendly Pharmacists for advice.



Opening Hours Monday to Friday 8:30am to 6:00pm
 Saturday 9:30am to 4:00pm



Catherine Liu & Team

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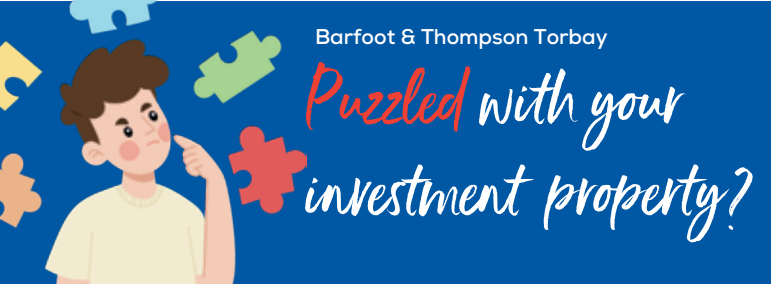
catherine.liu@raywhite.com

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Quizzes

sponsored by



EMOTIONS

C	A	N	O	I	S	S	E	R	P	E	D	P	S
R	E	G	N	A	E	E	E	P	O	H	S	R	C
E	Y	H	T	A	P	M	E	E	H	E	A	I	O
Y	A	C	E	N	S	R	M	M	S	P	D	D	N
B	N	R	M	S	E	P	E	A	C	E	N	E	F
O	X	T	R	U	H	U	M	H	H	E	E	S	I
R	I	S	D	E	F	E	E	S	O	Y	S	A	D
E	E	E	U	E	S	T	R	H	D	D	S	U	E
D	T	E	I	R	D	R	M	I	S	E	R	Y	N
O	Y	R	O	C	O	N	F	U	S	I	O	N	C
M	G	M	E	N	O	D	O	U	B	T	A	I	E
E	E	M	G	P	H	J	O	Y	D	S	A	T	E
R	T	E	R	R	O	R	S	H	Y	N	E	S	S
I	F	R	U	S	T	R	A	T	I	O	N	P	N

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| CONFUSION | HURT | GRIEF | JOY |
| DEPRESSION | TERROR | BOREDOM | EMPATHY |
| SHAME | PEACE | SADNESS | SHYNESS |
| HOPE | CONFIDENCE | ANGER | |
| REMORSE | FRUSTRATION | PRIDE | |
| ANXIETY | MISERY | DOUBT | |

WORD PUZZLE How many words of 3 or more letters can you make from the following letters?

ETSAL

25 good, 30 very good, 35+ excellent

CROSSWORD

1		2			3	4		5		6		7
				8								
9								10				
11						12						
												13
14		15								16		
	17				18				19		20	
21												
22						23						
24										25		

Across

- 1 Young horse (4)
- 3 Happening randomly (8)
- 9 Using reason (7)
- 10 Well done! (5)
- 11 Discussion platform (5)
- 12 High regard (6)
- 14 Business controller (13)
- 17 Peril (6)
- 19 Name meaning lotus flower (5)
- 22 Fence formed from shrubs (5)
- 23 Almost certainly (2,5)
- 24 Impudence (8)
- 25 Unable to walk (4)

Down

- 1 Fail to amuse (4,4)
- 2 Fury (5)
- 4 Made it happen (6,7)
- 5 Automated device (5)
- 6 Regional language form (7)
- 7 Cut of meat (4)
- 8 Particular skill (6)
- 13 Girl with dark brown hair (8)
- 15 Walk aimlessly (7)
- 16 Stay in a place (6)
- 18 Colour of inexperience (5)
- 20 Steam bath (5)
- 21 Beat food e.g. cream (4)

SUDOKU

			9		6			2	
3		1				8			
2								8	5
					7		2		
6					1				9
		5			9				
1	3								8
			3				6		7
	9			5			1		

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PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Word Quiz

Answers on pg 46

Suburbs of the North Auckland

Hidden within the box are 18 local names. Answers on page 33 at the bottom



LONGBAY

OKURA

TORBAY

WAIAKE

BROWNSBAY

ROSEDALE

ALBANY

REDDALE

MAIRANGIBAY

MURRAYS BAY

COATSVILLE

ROTHESAYBAY

MILFORD

WAIRAU

GLENFIELD

WINDSORPARK

SILVERDALE

OREWA

Origins of some of our placenames

Waiake is of Māori origin, translating to “water from below” or “spring”. Historically, this area was known for a fresh water spring that was believed to have curative properties, with many people visiting to “take the waters”. It was also known as Deep Creek.

Browns Bay is named after Peter and Mary Brown, who purchased 136 acres of land in the area in 1876. They developed the coastal farmland, which was previously covered in scrub, and later subdivided it in 1916 for residential development, turning the area into

a popular seaside holiday spot.

Albany was named on 1 December 1890 after the city of Albany in Western Australia. Resident Alexander McArthur proposed the name, drawing a parallel between the Auckland locality and the successful fruit-growing region in Australia. It replaced the original name, Lucas Creek, which had gained a reputation for illicit moonshine.

Rothsay Bay was part of the East Coast Bays, originated as a small, secluded inlet that developed into a holiday home settlement in the 1920s. It remained sparsely populated and rural until the

1950s, with only about ten families living there by 1945. The name likely derives from the Scottish town of Rothsay on the Isle of Bute.

Milford, a suburb on Auckland's North Shore, originated in the late 19th century, with the name likely chosen by early resident Edwin Harrow around 1881, potentially honouring his home town of Milford Haven, Wales, or a local residence, "Milford House". Originally known as "Campbells Bush," the area developed around the 1910s following the establishment of a steam tramway.

Torbay & Long Bay Medical Centres

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PREPARING FOR FLU SEASON: PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR COMMUNITY

As the cooler months approach, it's time to start thinking about flu season. In New Zealand, influenza cases typically increase between May and October, with the peak usually occurring from June to August. Taking a few simple steps now can help you stay well throughout the winter months.

What to Expect During Flu Season

The flu can appear suddenly and often makes people feel unwell very quickly. Symptoms may include fever, chills, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, sore throat, and a runny or blocked nose. Some people—particularly children—may also experience nausea, vomiting, or diarrhoea.

Most people recover within one to two weeks, but influenza can lead to more serious complications for some. Older adults, young children, pregnant women, and people with chronic health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease are at higher risk of developing severe illness.

If symptoms become severe—such as difficulty breathing, chest pain, or extreme weakness—it's important to seek medical care promptly.

The Best Protection: Getting Your Flu Vaccine

One of the most effective ways to protect yourself is by getting the annual flu vaccine. The vaccine helps your body build immunity against the strains of influenza expected to circulate each year. Even if you do catch the flu after vaccination, it can significantly reduce the severity of symptoms and lower the risk of complications like pneumonia.

In New Zealand, the flu vaccine is free for people at higher risk, including:

- Adults aged 65 and over
- Pregnant women
- Children with certain respiratory conditions
- People with long-term medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease

For others, the vaccine is available for a small fee.

You can conveniently book your flu vaccine with the friendly nursing team at Torbay Medical Centre, where experienced nurses are ready to help protect you and your family this winter.

Good Hygiene Still Matters

Vaccination works best alongside everyday health habits that reduce the spread of viruses:

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitiser when handwashing isn't possible.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow.
- Stay home if you're sick to prevent spreading illness to others.

If You Do Get the Flu

If you develop flu symptoms, rest and hydration are key. Over-the-counter medications can help manage fever and aches, but if symptoms worsen or don't improve, contact your healthcare provider.

For people at higher risk of complications, doctors may prescribe antiviral medications, which work best when started early.

Looking After Vulnerable People

Influenza can be especially serious for vulnerable members of our community. Encouraging family members—especially older relatives, young children, and pregnant women—to get vaccinated helps protect everyone.

If you're feeling unwell, try to minimise contact with those who may be more susceptible to severe illness.

Take Action Before Winter Arrives

Flu season can be unpredictable, but preparation makes a big difference. By getting vaccinated, practising good hygiene, and staying home when sick, you can help reduce the spread of influenza and keep our community healthier.



**Book your flu vaccine today with the caring nursing team at
Torbay Medical Centre 09 477 9000
A quick appointment now could help you stay healthy all winter.**

Torbay Medical Centre
1042 Beach Road, Torbay, 0630
09 477 9000

Long Bay Medical Centre
55a Glenvar Ridge Rd, Long Bay
09 473 0063

My story

My family members told me that I need to do something about my health and my strength. I went on holiday with them, caught the plane and I struggled to walk, I was in constant pain in my hips and back, thinking I needed to have a more serious look at this medically.

I was told about Lynne of The Body Tonic Group through my neighbour, but I hung onto her phone number for a while. Hearing of Lynne in the community and a number of ladies going to her, I wish I had called and booked in with her sooner.

Lynne allows me to regroup between exercises allowing me to literally catch my breath.

I am well on my way to recovery. I was a mess when Lynne reviewed me in Nov 2024, she knew how she could work with my incorrect gait, my knee replacements, my stooped posture and real back/hip pain.

I'm on my way to getting my life back and building physical strength again. I am thankful for the way that Lynne works with my unique issues, and I know that I'm safe in hands.



I'm now receiving positive comments from friends who can see the difference.

I can balance, I can work with 2kg weights, both hand and ankle, I can stretch and my flexibility has increased a hundred percent. My energy levels have increased, and I do no running or jumping moves. Lynne works out on the chair with me if I have had a rough night's sleep and lack in energy, or allows me to sit between more intense workouts, which shows me that working with Lynne to my needs is what my success is about. I am stronger and

more determined and motivated more than ever. We have friendly chats and the relaxed environment with her friendly nature is just what I was looking for. The best part about all this and what Lynne does, is that I know how to manage my body and care for myself at home, with simple and easy to follow stretches and health advice Lynne gives me. My shoulders have pulled back, and I can spend more time with the grandchildren, without getting too exhausted.

Lyn Garrard

EXERCISES THAT WORK!

Stretch | Flex | Strengthen

Reduce pain trigger points, enjoy increased balance, strength and flexibility.

Ladies Small Group Classes

Due to popular demand, new ladies group opening up!

Days: Monday & Wednesday evenings 6.30 to 7.30pm
Bookings essential to hold your place. Don't miss out
4 ladies in a group. All ages welcome

Relaxed Environment | Non-Commercial | Home Studio

We also offer personal training, exercise assessments and consultations and massage therapy.

Movement Specialist & Fitness Trainer (Reps. Registered) | Pelvic Floor & Core Certified | Author
The Biometrics Method Corrective Exercise Specialist | Sports Advanced & Remedial Massage Certified



✉ lscott@thebodytonicgroup.com  [thebodytonicgroup](https://www.facebook.com/thebodytonicgroup)  [thebodytonicgroup.com](https://www.thebodytonicgroup.com)

Lynne Scott - 021 204 3280

Mairangi Bay Food and Wine Festival

On 14th March Mairangi Bay Business Association held it's annual Food and Wine Festival. After a dreadful week's weather the sun came out and so did the people. Thanks to Barfoot & Thompson and Local Board.

Photographer Keerti Siag



The benefit of sleeping well

We all know we feel so much better when we have a good night's sleep and we all know how groggy you can feel when you haven't.

There are some steps you can take to help promote sleep.

- Have enough exercise each day, but not too late in the day, so that you do feel tired. There are exercises to suit anyone, regardless of age or ability. Try swimming, cycling, bowls, golf or simply going for a walk.
- Have a bedtime routine so that sleep becomes part of that routine. Try to go to bed the same time each night and try to do something relaxing in the hours before bed.
- Unwind before bed. Read a book, have a warm bath or listening to soothing music.

- Try to settle any problems before bed so that your mind will be more relaxed. Write them down if you cannot solve them.
- Try a herbal tea or a warm milky drink.
- If you have sleep apnoea avoid alcohol or any sedatives, as these lead to snoring.
- Try breathing exercises to relax into sleep.



Things to avoid

Avoid napping in the day so that you are tired when you do go to bed.

Limit evening drinks to avoid getting up in the night for the toilet.

It's not a good idea to eat a large meal just before going to bed.

Make sure your bedroom is quiet and not overheated.

If all else fails there are medications that can be taken, so speak to your Doctor or Pharmacist.

Join me at Long Bay Market

Hello, my name is Abigail Renwick, and I am a Year 12 student at Long Bay College. I am a lover of art, literature, nature, and music. While I'm not completely sure what career I want yet, I do know the type of person I want to become.



I want to be someone who is kind, who contributes to my community, and who stands up for what matters. Someone who cares deeply about people and the earth. I also want to be a traveller and an explorer. The opportunity I have been given this year feels like a step toward becoming that person.

In September, my school's Classics class will be travelling to Italy and Greece. Classics is a subject that explores ancient civilizations such as Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece. We study their art, politics, literature, culture, and philosophy. To see these places in real life, standing among ancient ruins, sculptures, and buildings that I've only read about in textbooks, would be an incredible experience.

This trip means so much to me, but I have to work for it! One of the ways I will be doing this is a bake sale at the Long Bay Village Market. I will be selling my seriously delicious vanilla cupcakes. So, bring your appetite!

The total cost of the trip is \$10,000, and I'm working hard to raise at least half of that myself. I've started a Givealittle page (<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/classictour2026>), alongside selling cupcakes.

If you'd like to support my journey, you can donate, share my story, or simply stop by and buy a cupcake. Every bit of support helps bring this dream a little closer.

Thank you,

Abigail Renwick

Silverdale Pioneer Village

15 Wainui Road Silverdale

Mother's Day High Teas

Mother's Day High Teas in the Parsonage on **Sunday 10th May**

Step back in time and treat the special lady in your life



\$ 40 / head

Bookings essential

See website for details on how to book
www.silverdalepioneervillage.com

The High Price Of Skipping Legal Advice At The Start (And End) Of Relationships.

Zara and Alex had been together for five years. They lived in a property that Alex had purchased before their relationship began. Zara and Alex shared the bills – the power, internet, groceries etc., but Alex continued to pay the mortgage. Alex did earn a lot more than Zara and, as well as paying the mortgage, was contributing 8% to KiwiSaver.

The KiwiSaver account was growing nicely. Zara hadn't yet started a KiwiSaver account. It was just one of those things that she had never got round to. She was also enjoying having a bit of extra money with not having to pay any rent but would sometimes pay for dinner when she and Alex went out as a tradeoff.

After a while Zara and Alex's relationship began to break down. Alex was ambitious and driven, keen to purchase a rental property now that the mortgage on their home was getting manageable. Zara was a life-styler. She wanted to spend any extra money on going out or travel. This became a bit wearisome for Alex after a while and they decided to separate.

Because the house was in Alex's name and Zara had made no financial contribution, there didn't seem to be anything that they needed to sort out. Alex suggested writing an agreement between them, but Zara just didn't see the point. She had nothing of her own, and everything Alex owned was his.

Twelve months later, Zara had a new partner, Sam. Sam had some friends who were lawyers and one night when they were out Zara told one of Sam's friends about her relationship with Alex. Zara said that she had left the relationship, but that because the house had been Alex's there was nothing for her anyway. The lawyer friend told Zara that because Alex's house was considered the "family home", Zara would have a claim for 50% of the equity in the property. They also said that



Zara would be entitled to half of Alex's KiwiSaver saved over the course of the relationship. The fact that Zara had spent all she had earned during that time was of no relevance. The lawyer friend suggested that Zara get some legal advice.

Four weeks later, Alex received a letter from Zara's new lawyer stating that Zara was making a relationship property claim on Alex's house and KiwiSaver. The letter asked Alex to disclose all bank accounts and investments owned at the time the relationship ended. It also said that Zara was putting a notice of claim on Alex's property – that meant that Alex wouldn't be able to sell or re-mortgage the property without dealing with Zara's claim. Alex was naturally horrified and went to get legal advice.

Alex's lawyer said that as Zara and Alex weren't married, Zara could make the claim within two years of separation and she was within that two-year window. The lawyer said that Zara's claim was also valid and was within what the law would provide for Zara. Alex should have entered into a contracting out agreement when the relationship with Zara began, or at the very least insisted that they enter into a legally binding separation agreement at the end of the relationship, when Zara was amenable to agreeing that the property was solely Alex's and that she had no claim.

Alex assumed the situation was straightforward because the property was in his name. However, under relationship property law, the family home and other assets can still be subject to division when a relationship ends. Taking legal advice early, both at the start and end of a relationship, can help provide clarity and avoid costly disputes later.



TAMMY MCLEOD (BA LLB)
Managing Director, Davenports Law
Trust and asset structuring specialist,
leading the Trust Team.



CRAFTED LEGAL ADVICE FOR PEACE OF MIND.

Understanding *Relationship Property.*

The protection of assets that we have all worked so hard to acquire is an important consideration for most people.

Income, property, KiwiSaver, intermingled inheritances and gifts from third parties are all considered relationship property when in a de facto relationship – unless both parties have entered into a Contracting Out Agreement. Without one, relationship property would be shared equally upon separation, or even the death of one party, regardless of what anyone's will said.

Know when your relationship is considered a de facto relationship under New Zealand legislation and protect your assets with a Contracting Out Agreement. Contact our Trusts and Wealth Protection Team for specialist advice.

Another Strong Result For Torbay

SOLD



Scan here to see what everyone's saying about Wanly Tsang.



A recent auction result in Torbay shows **strong buyer demand** across the coastal North Shore suburbs.

A recent sale by Wanly Tsang at 13 Phoebe Meikle Place, Torbay, sold for \$1,442,000. **\$242,000 above CV** in just 26 days on the market. The campaign generated strong buyer interest, attracting 104 inspections, 10 registered buyers and 5 active bidders on auction day, highlighting the level of competition we are still seeing for quality homes. This result reflects the continued demand across Torbay, Long Bay and Okura, where well-presented homes in these popular coastal suburbs continue to attract serious buyer attention. Thinking of selling or curious what your home might be worth in today's market? Let's have a quick chat.

“Dedicated, *Passionate* and Knowledgeable Agent”

“Wanly worked tirelessly to achieve a fantastic result. Her dedication, passion and knowledge is very impressive and makes her an obvious choice when selling your property. Wanly was always available - even late at night and I was always made to feel comfortable and confident with her as my agent.”

Seller | Sue

★★★★★ **5 Star Rated** by Rate My Agent

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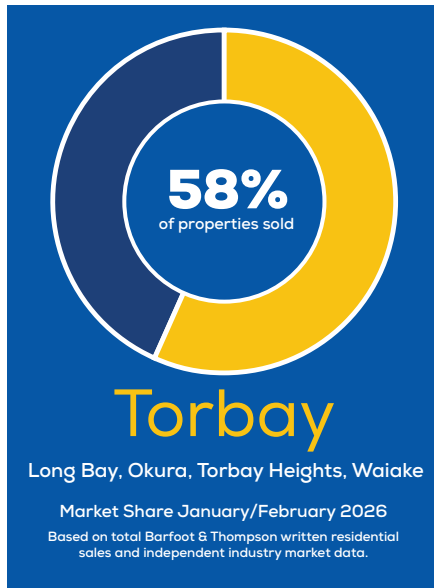
#1 Harcourts North Shore

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Wanly Tsang & Team



Let us help you get ready to sell this **Autumn**



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