

Clevedon tennis tournament a smashing success



Tennis players of all abilities enjoyed dressing up and playing on privately-owned courts around Clevedon, competing for honours at the Clevedon Coast Oysters Tennis Tournament last Saturday. The popular event is a fundraiser for the Clevedon Tennis Club. More photos on page 4.

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Sikh temple lodges resource consent application for Brookby site

Sri Guru Singh Sabha Auckland Inc has applied for resource consent to establish a Sikh temple facility at a property on Kimptons Road, Brookby.

The society purchased the 27.47ha plot of land, known as Taraire Farm, in 2022. It now plans to build a place of worship on the site.

In its application to Auckland Council, Sri Guru Singh Sabha says that if approved, the facility will only operate on Sundays, holding services at which a maximum of 90 people are expected to attend.

The proposed single-storey building will have a floor area of about 865m², including an entry foyer, hall, kitchen and dining area, a library, office/administration room, children's room, changing rooms and toilets.

Thirty-three carparks are planned adjacent to the centre.

The application proposes to install stormwater and rainwater tanks, and a wastewater treatment system which would disperse treated wastewater over land.

Auckland Council says the application is currently on hold while more information is sought. In due course the council will decide whether the public will have an opportunity to submit their support of, or opposition to, the application.

In 2019 Radio New Zealand reported that Sri Guru Singh Sabha Auckland was found guilty of breaching employment agreements, the Minimum Wage Act and the Holiday Act related to two staff who worked at the organisation's Papatoetoe temple. The temple was ordered to pay over \$66,000 in lost wages and holiday pay, and compensation for humiliation and loss of dignity. The temple also received a \$40,000 penalty for breaching employment laws.

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INSIDE: Filmmaker seeks support for 'Whitford Stories' p3

Meet the Coast's new Youth Council p6

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The PC Times 20 years ago:

5 November 2004: Transpower project to impact Whitford/Clevedon/Hūnua.



Weekly Tide Chart

Day	Moon	12:26am ▲ 2.9m	6:23am ▼ 0.8m	Tide
8 Fri	☾	▲ 2.9m	▼ 0.8m	🐟🐟
9 Sat	☾	▲ 2.8m	▼ 0.8m	🐟🐟
10 Sun	☾	▲ 2.8m	▼ 0.9m	🐟🐟
11 Mon	☾	▲ 2.8m	▼ 0.9m	🐟🐟
12 Tue	☾	▲ 2.9m	▼ 0.8m	🐟
13 Wed	☾	▲ 3.0m	▼ 0.7m	🐟
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Editorial by Friends of Te Wairoa

Crack willow is an excellent example of an introduced species turning into a pest plant in the New Zealand environment. Crack willows are now widespread in New Zealand waterways, outcompeting natives and restricting river flows. The Wairoa River is infested with crack willow along its length from tributaries in its upper reaches to the saline wedge. They cause blockages in the river and a number of debris dams that restrict flow, leading to damage during high rainfall events. They reproduce prolifically and have reached the point where the issues they cause have rapidly worsened over a short period of time. They need to be stopped in their tracks.

The community in the Wairoa River catchment is embarking on an ambitious programme to eradicate this pest plant from the catchment, which is a very big job but very achievable by working together with community input. There is already a great deal of support. Financial support has been received from Franklin Local Board, Auckland Council Environmental Services and Foundation North. Camp Adair and the Y are working with the Ministry of Social development to assemble a team to poison willows in the upper reaches of the river, and have been supported by Counties Energy. In addition a



Community groups are on a mission to crack the problem of crack willow (pictured above). Image source / Weedbusters.org.nz.

new management plan for the river is being produced to guide remediation efforts. The support from the community and central and local bodies has been remarkable, and has given the project a great start. However, even with all this help, community participation is going to be vital with such a big task.

It needs to be emphasised that this is not all about killing willows. There is a major revegetation and pest plant control job to follow.

Friends of Te Wairoa has established a

new role for a community coordinator to motivate and educate the community, manage a library of equipment for community use, organise events and manage the community nursery. It is a paid position for one day a week. We are looking for a local person who is a great communicator and organiser. In depth knowledge of plants is not essential as there is plenty of expertise available to learn on the job. If this may interest you, please email info@tewaiora.org.nz and we will send you out more details.



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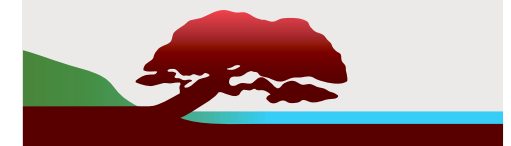
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Veteran filmmaker seeks community support for 'Whitford Stories'

- by Jon Rawlinson

A rich history will (ironically) be no forgotten silver, a veteran local filmmaker intends. However, Dale Bradley knows that it will take a village to create his next film, titled *Whitford Stories*.

"I'm researching and writing for the project. My main objective, apart from writing the scripts, is to get as many locals to register on the website (www.whitford.kiwi) as I can so people can join in. I'm hoping we can create some re-enactments of historical events and that the community will be enthusiastic and become involved."

Unlike Sir Peter Jackson's mockumentary, *Forgotten Silver*, Dale's film will not gather dust in a shed. Instead, it will be shared online and available in several versions and lengths.

While preserving Whitford's history - from early Māori occupation to more recent times - is his main aim, Dale hopes his work will also prove highly entertaining. He has already begun his research and met with several long time Whitford residents.

"Many I've spoken to have vivid memories of the 1950s and 60s. In 30 years, their memories will be cherished as historical treasures," he says.

In addition to documenting the past, the project also seeks to create a sense of community. By engaging locals in his storytelling, Dale hopes to foster pride in the village's heritage, sharing memories that define 'the essence of Whitford'.

Well accustomed to life behind the lens, Dale has worked in film and television for more than 40 years, directing seven feature films, writing five scripts and producing more than 50 productions in total.

"My career has generally involved large international productions and I tend to be an executive rather than a filmmaker. But I've had this dream for a long time, to get back to hands-on filmmaking and storytelling - that's my passion. When I hear stories of early gold miners in Whitford I instinctively want to tell those stories on the screen, large and small."

A tale a long time in the telling, inspiration for the film began after Dale settled in nearby Cockle Bay in the 1970s.



Dale Bradley, Whitford resident and film maker. Photo / Dale Bradley.

He soon became inspired by the work of well-known east Auckland historian, Alan LaRoche.

"In those days, I was right on the boundary of suburban life and regularly took drives out into the countryside. I dreamed of living in Whitford and we built our first house there in 2001," he recalls. "Alan's book, *The History of Howick and Pakuranga*, included a chapter on Whitford and that really got my interest going. He has huge knowledge [of the area] and is being very helpful with this project."

Rallying the troops to produce his new film, Dale has community groups on board, including the Whitford Residents



Even after the first wooden bridge was built over the Mangemangeroa Gorge in the 1860s, transport to Whitford was usually by boat until the 1920s. Photo courtesy of Auckland Library.

and Ratepayers Association, CrossNet Community Trust and The Whitford Community Charitable Trust (WCCT).

Whitford Stories will play an important role in capturing local history, Mark Spring from WCCT believes.

"This project is crucial because we must honour the stories of our pioneers using the communication methods that resonate today. Secondly, we are responsible to

ensure our stories are told for the benefit of future generations - if we don't tell them, who will?"

A 'vibrant tapestry of local history' will require many a 'yarn' woven together. For this reason, Dale is calling on locals to share their memories, stories, photographs and home movies. For more information regarding submissions, and the project as a whole, visit www.whitford.kiwi.

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Clevedon tennis tournament photos



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As the fish was spent and bait totally swallowed it was unable to be released, so was kept and smoked for use at Ian's 80th birthday party in November. His fishing buddy, Bill, smoked the head and flaps so there was very little wastage. Ian says the boat rule is usually all snapper over 60cm are released where possible, but unfortunately it wasn't possible on this occasion.

TO ENTER, EMAIL YOUR PHOTO TO LIZ@GASMARAETAI.CO.NZ include your full name, plus details about your catch (where the fish was caught, boat name, special gear used, what you did with the fish after it was caught etc).

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Auckland Transport dismisses resident's Jack Lachlan Drive safety concerns

A Beachlands resident's concerns about traffic safety on Jack Lachlan Drive have been dismissed by Auckland Transport (AT).

Dennis Horne contacted AT in September, concerned about cars parking down both sides of Jack Lachlan Drive east of the marina, restricting traffic to a single lane. Dennis requested that the area be painted with yellow lines to restrict parking, saying the narrow road width was becoming a safety issue for drivers.

Dennis says that the recent population increase has resulted in a large shortage of parking spaces.

"The Pine Harbour parking area, Jack Lachlan Drive extension, Ninth View, Gateway Ave, Winterman Ave and Seventh View are full of parked cars at all times. This will only get worse with the number of people moving into this area."

Dennis encouraged AT to visit the area when both sides of the road were full of parked cars.

Auckland Transport's traffic engineering team assessed the site, and in an email to Dennis said that AT does not consider Jack Lachlan Drive to be narrow "as it is wider than 6.8 metres and Jack Lachlan Drive is approximately 8.4 metres wide. A road

that is 6.8 metres wide can fit parking on both sides and a single 2.8-metre travel lane. This is wide enough for emergency service vehicles."

AT said that even with vehicles parked on both sides of the road, there is still room to pass using the clear space near driveways. AT also said that a road that appears narrow can also encourage people to drive slower, improving road safety.

Dennis says he believes AT has dismissed the safety concerns of locals.

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Group determined to create more opportunities for Coast's young people

An inspirational group of young people are making their voices, and needs, heard on the Pōhutukawa Coast.

The Pōhutukawa Coast Youth Council says its goal is to represent the voices of young people in Beachlands, Maraetai, Whitford and Clevedon.

Its members to date are: co-chairs Blake Ingram and Annalee Killip, treasurer Jake Howard, co-secretaries Chloe Ronberg and Charlotte Smith, and committee members Olivia Spick and Devin Marshall.

Blake Ingram says the group is keen to create more opportunities for young people.

"We also want to advocate for youth needs, like better transport options!, and bring the generations in the community together," says Blake.

"Some things that we want to achieve are establishing Movies in the Park as an

annual event again after it was cancelled during Covid."

The Youth Council works with local organisations on youth-led initiatives, and hopes to get more young people's voices heard by the Franklin Local Board.

"Right now, we're focused on bringing back Movies in the Park, improving public spaces and raising awareness about transport issues like the need for later buses."

Blake says they would love to welcome more young people who want to make a difference.

Anyone interested can reach out to the youth council via email: team@pcyc.nz.

"We also encourage people to follow us on Instagram and Facebook to stay up to date with what we're working on and to have an input on our community work," says Blake.

Fire brigade urges caution with lithium batteries

In the wake of a recent house fire in Beachlands, the Beachlands Volunteer Fire Brigade urges residents to handle lithium batteries with caution.

Statistics from Fire and Emergency New Zealand show the number of house fires caused by lithium-ion batteries (commonly found in devices like smartphones, laptops, e-bikes and power tools) has quadrupled over the past 10 years.

Lithium batteries can become a fire

hazard when they overheat, malfunction, are damaged or are improperly disposed of.

To minimise the risk of a lithium battery fire, use certified chargers, avoid overcharging, and do not store batteries in hot or humid conditions.

Damaged or expired batteries should be recycled at authorised collection centres (some Bunnings and Mitre 10 stores offer this service).



Pōhutukawa Coast Youth Council members (L-R) Blake, Jake, Devin, Charlotte and Olivia. Absent: Annalee and Chloe.

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It was 20 minutes for my pasta bake to cook and then mum left and watched Tv, it was the America's Cup. It was past 20 minutes and then I saw a big flame because it was a big pasta cake. Oh no!

- by *Finley McGeoch, Year 1, Beachlands School*



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- 1 tsp vanilla essence
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 2 cups chocolate chips or roughly chopped chocolate

Method:

Mix the eggs, butter, cocoa, sugar, salt and vanilla essence until well combined. Fold in the flour, baking powder and chocolate chips.

Pour mixture into a greased and lined 20cm x 60cm sponge roll tin.

Bake for 50-55 minutes at 150 degrees Celcius. Leave to sit until cool (the brownie will continue to cook after you take it out of the oven).

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Auckland Council's rubbish study raises eyebrows

- by Laura Kvigstad, Auckland Council reporter. Funded by New Zealand on Air.

Auckland Council's study on fortnightly rubbish collection has raised concerns about its suitability for large families after half of the participants dropped out.

At the council's Policy and Planning Committee last month, councillors voted to trial fortnightly rubbish collection for select areas before it considered rolling it out across the city in 2028.

The shift is part of the council's strategy to reduce waste. Public consultation on a draft waste minimisation plan was held earlier this year, amassing 4147 submissions and verbal responses.

One of the greatest concerns raised during the public consultation was how large families would be able to cope with fortnightly collection.

The council's Waste Planning manager Sarah Le Claire said they had conducted a large household study in 2022.

"We took these households through the introduction of the food scrap service and shift to fortnightly collections over a 10 week period. We appreciate the sample was small but the results were impressive," Le Claire said.

10 households of six to 12 people from Manurewa and Papakura took part.

The study results showed that recyclables in rubbish bins dropped by 58 per cent and food waste in rubbish bins dropped by 65 per cent resulting in a significant decrease in rubbish collected.

Councillor Josephine Bartley questioned whether some families had dropped out of that study.

Le Claire confirmed that "a couple of families" had dropped out of the final part of the study.

"The perception that we got at the time, it was not so much that they could not cope but it was being observed that they weren't so keen on it," Le Claire said.

She said despite the families dropping out at the final stage, they had been very successful in reducing their waste.

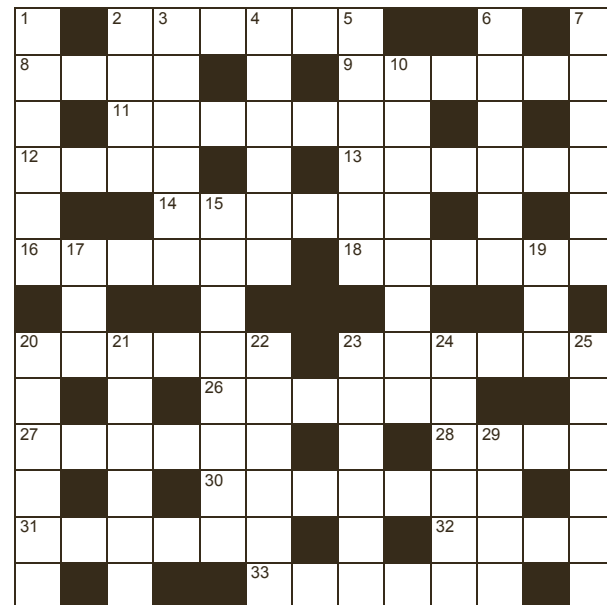
Bartley said that only five households participated in all stages and questioned if the study had actually shown that large families could cope.

"How do you justify that statement if it was only five households that continued with this full study?" Bartley said.

Le Claire acknowledged the small sample size but suggested success would be achievable through a larger trial.

Council will consult with affected households about a further trial in October 2025 and the decision to initiate the trial will be made by the committee.

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Across

- 2. To the rear (6)
- 8. Curve (4)
- 9. Comfortable and at ease (2,4)
- 11. Mineral soak (3,4)
- 12. As happily (arch) (4)
- 13. Satirical (6)
- 14. Dozen (6)
- 16. State emphatically (6)
- 18. Cafe (6)
- 20. Anticipate (6)
- 23. Roar (6)
- 26. Formal robe (6)
- 27. High-pitched shout (6)
- 28. Operator (4)
- 30. Relevant (7)
- 31. Wreath plant (6)
- 32. Courage and determination (4)
- 33. American (inf) (6)

Down

- 1. Daisy-like flower (6)
- 2. Highest point of achievement (4)
- 3. Quick look (colloq) (6)
- 4. Symbol (6)
- 5. Local inhabitant (6)
- 6. Attractive (Scottish) (6)
- 7. Irritable (6)
- 10. Menace (8)
- 15. Material left after destruction (8)
- 17. Repair (3)
- 19. Australian animal (inf) (3)
- 20. Without difficulty (6)
- 21. Chase (6)
- 22. Opportune (6)
- 23. Archer (6)
- 24. Living room (6)
- 25. Kindness (6)
- 29. Dried-up (4)

Answers on page 11



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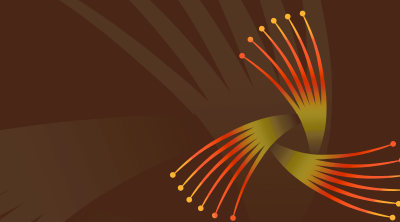


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Down: 1. Dahlia, 2. Acme, 3. Shufti, 4. Emblem, 5. Native, 6. Bonnie, 7. Tetchy, 10. Threaten, 15. Wreckage, 17. Fix, 19. Roo, 20. Easily, 21. Pursue, 22. Timely, 23. Bowman, 24. Lounge, 25. Warmth, 29. Sere.



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