



VILLAGE

VOICE

ISSUE 75 AUGUST 2020 • DISTRIBUTED FREE TO HOMES & SHOPS • LIVING, WORKING & SHOPPING IN GLEN EDEN

Changing of the guard



From left: GEBA chairperson, **Natasha McDowall**; **Gary Holmes**; **Jennifer Conlon**; **Community Constable Rob Manson**

THE Glen Eden Business Association Executive Committee has appointed Gary Holmes and team at Campaignz to manage the Business Association.

Gary has been managing Business Associations for the past decade and brings a wealth of experience to help with the strategic oversight and direction for Glen Eden Village.

Jennifer Conlon, after six years with GEBA, is leaving to take up a role in the security sector. GEBA would like to extend their thanks to Jennifer for her commitment, energy, vitality and perseverance and wish her all the best in her new role.

A Town Centre Manager, based in Glen Eden, will be appointed shortly.

Have your say on the draft Local Board Plan

THE draft Local Board Plan – open for consultation until 13 August – sets the direction for Waitākere Ranges Local Board over the next three years. It includes seven outcomes impacting everything from funding decisions through to areas of focus.

“The protection and enhancement of the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area will continue to be one of our main strategic focuses,” says board chair Greg Presland. “The fact that we can talk about applying for dark sky

park status shows you how special, unique and important a place it is.

“This plan also responds to the challenges of COVID-19 and the new world we find ourselves in. We intend helping our communities to be resilient, so they can withstand and recover from natural challenges. We also intend supporting our urban centres, which have seen significant financial impact from COVID-19.

“Now is the time for our communities to look at this and tell

us if we are on the right track and if our priorities match their own.

“There is no doubt in my mind that the next three years will bring us challenges that we would not have even comprehended nine months ago, but together we will find a way forward and I encourage everyone to make sure they have their say on our plan.”

Visit akhaveyoursay.nz/lovelocal by 13 August to have your say on the local board plan.

The signs of success are everywhere.

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How we celebrated Matariki in Glen Eden

By Laurie Ross

RANGI (the sky) is raining down upon us in the dark winter gloom.

It is a day to stay huddled at home but overcoming inertia feels important to support the community in cultural celebration of Matariki in Waitākere.

Yes, it is worth the effort to stand under an umbrella in the rain, to hear The 3Rs, brave musician warriors, performing heartwarming songs and to groove along.

A few Glen Edenites and local board members share appreciation, as we listen to Rikki Bennett play traditional Māori instruments.

This tohunga (expert or learned person) transports us to ancient times, the ancestors are with us, we are reawakened to mystical consciousness, in the midst of

suburban commercial reality.

Then he conducts the naming of trees and ceremonial brazier fire ritual outside Glen Eden Library, while the children colour Matariki star cards and write messages of gratitude. Ahi Kaa! (Keep the home fires burning!)

As we stand enchanted in smoke and mist on the edge of magical timelessness, there's a sudden burst of bold red-blooded Kapa Haka Youth Choir. They're from Hoani Waititi Marae.

Their full-bodied singing brings us back to Papatūānuku (Earth) with renewed vigour and determination to do everything we can to care for our Mother Earth with the blessings of the stars.

Thank you, Matariki.



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Lifeline for community groups



MANY community groups are struggling to meet basic operating costs like power bills, PPE and water rates, according to new figures.

New funding application data shows the average amount of funding sought by Auckland charities to cover their current overheads is almost \$8,000.

The figures also reveal that operating expenses were higher among community and wellbeing groups as well as environmental and arts charities.

More than 100 charities that have seen a significant increase in demand for their services yet are struggling to meet their operating costs as a result of COVID-19 will now receive a share of more than \$500,000 – thanks to a new emergency fund.

They applied for grants from The Trusts' Your West Support Fund to cover a wide range of expenses.

Trusts CEO Allan Pollard (above) says the high volume of funding requests received in the past few weeks suggests many local charities are struggling to stay afloat.

"We know that the pandemic has had a significant impact on the normal income streams of community groups. These are organisations providing blankets, food and support services

to the most vulnerable members of our community. What was particularly concerning was that many of these organisations have asked for help to cover their basic operating needs such as power, broadband and rent.

"For many, this funding will be an essential lifeline to help them continue to support their community in a post-COVID environment," he says.

Allan Pollard says the requests for support exceeded \$1.1 million and cover a wide range of organisations including food charities, whānau-based support, elderly and youth support services, hospice as well as environmental and sporting groups.

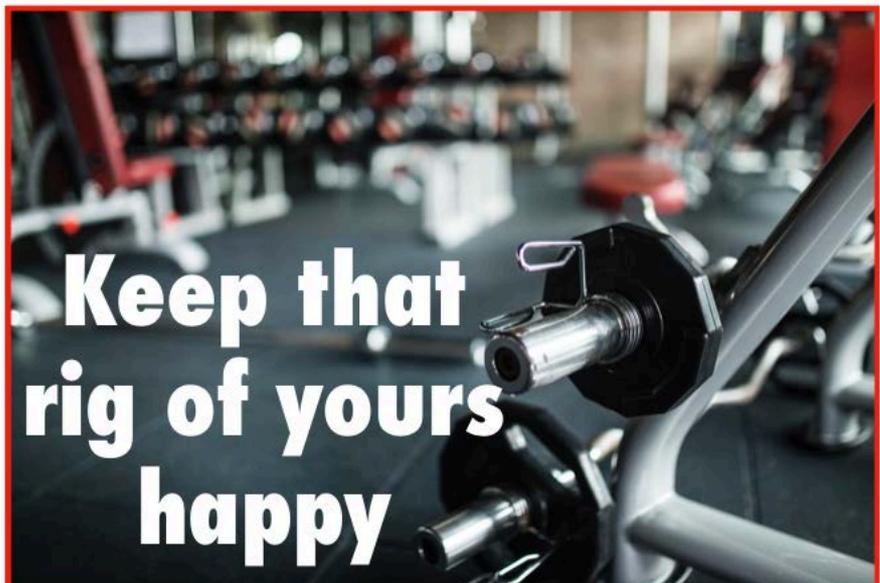


Can you help?

GLEN EDEN Primary School Board of Trustees is keen to hear from anyone who knows about the pricing and building of a fale.

This is a traditional Samoan house with open sides and a thatched roof.

Contact the school if you can help.



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Activities for all ages in Glen Eden Library

Book Chat

First Wednesday of each month
10.30am–11.30am
Come and share what you've been reading.

Job Cafe

Every Wednesday 1pm–3pm
(except school holidays)
Whau Ace Adult and Community Education offer free drop-in sessions helping you to:

- Prepare a CV
- Search for a job
- Apply online for jobs
- Write a cover letter

Rhyme Time

Thursdays 10.30am

Wriggle and Rhyme

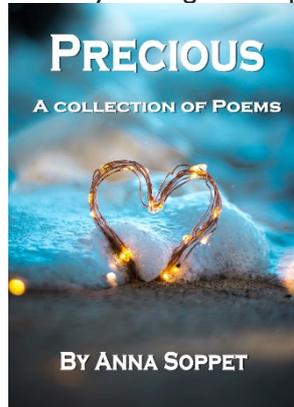
Fridays 11am

Lego Club

Saturdays 2.30pm–3.30pm

Book launch: *Precious*

Saturday 15 August 1.30pm–2.30pm



Come and meet West Auckland author Anna Soppet and hear about her new book *Precious* in which she focuses on the special people, places and experiences that make life meaningful, and the simple joy of time spent with those we love.

Glen Eden Writers' Group

Last Saturday of every month
1pm–3.30pm

The group offers writers of all abilities the opportunity to support and encourage each other, while sharing their skills in a creative and supportive environment. For more information, email: liz@glenedenwriter.co.nz

Skinny Jump

Do you need Internet connection for the kids' schoolwork or for yourself to connect with family overseas? The library is a local partner for Skinny Jump, which offers flexible prepaid broadband. It is available to anyone who does not have a broadband connection. No contracts or credit checks, modem comes free and preloaded with 30GB. Pop into Glen Eden Library for more information.

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Hon Carmel Sepuloni



MP for Kelston

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 Glen Eden, Auckland
 09 818 4131
kelston.eo@parliament.govt.nz
[/CarmelSepuloniLabour](https://www.facebook.com/CarmelSepuloniLabour)





Authorised by Carmel Sepuloni,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington

What colour should I see?

A person with 'normal' colour vision sees approximately six bands of colour (red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet), whereas a person with colour deficiency may only see four colour bands (yellow-orange, grey, blue and violet).

The most common type of colour deficiency is red-green. People with this cannot distinguish certain shades of red and green.

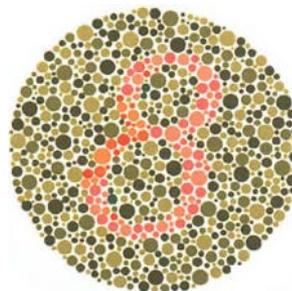
Colour deficiency is either inherited or acquired. A person who inherits it is more likely to be a male than female. Approximately 8% of males experience some form of colour

deficiency while only 0.4% of females are colour deficient.

Colour deficiency can be acquired as a result of diseases, injury, various drugs (medicinal or illicit) or the natural process of aging.

Career choices such as armed forces, police, pilot, air traffic controller or electrician may be affected by colour deficiency.

All children should be checked for colour deficiency, especially if there is a family history of colour vision deficiency. Come in and talk to us about this.



16 Glenmall Place (09) 818 4452 reception@glenedenoptometrist.co.nz

Happy customers and full days keep Hina contented

HINA UKA is the owner of Hina's Beauty Care, and clearly a contented woman.

She came from a village in India called Tavdis. She met her husband Daya when he was visiting India in 2011. They married, and Hina began her journey to New Zealand.

"After coming to New Zealand I worked in a beauty salon in Auckland," she explains, "and after four years I had our son. My husband sent me to an English school to help me with my English and there I met people from other parts of the world. It was an amazing experience to meet people from other cultures."

After 12 months of being at home looking after their son, Hina decided to open a beauty shop. She took on the lease of the West Coast Road premises and opened Hina's Beauty Care on 1 December 2015.

"Our first day was very scary. I had completed an apprenticeship in India where I learnt how to perform traditional treatments such as threading and waxing techniques and makeup. During my first year being open I learnt more techniques by attending training courses.



"I rely on part-time staff during my busy days, which are Thursday, Friday and Saturday. I installed a computer system this year and my customers can now book appointments online.

"I really appreciate my customers. They mean a lot to me and give me good advice. When I have a full day and customers are happy, it makes me happy.

"I miss my family overseas and

think of them every day but being able to keep in contact with them on a daily basis makes it easier.

"My husband says to always move forward and not to stand still, otherwise you will be overtaken. My hope is that Glen Eden does the same."

Glen Eden is certainly a better place for having people like Hina as part of the community.

Trouble with your drains?

We're here to help with CCTV and hydro jet. As well as unblocking and repairs, we tackle drain laying, plotting, inspections and new builds. We are Glen Eden locals serving the local community.



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Funding your first home



THE LVR (loan-to-value ratio) rules were scrapped, write Robyn Rule and Alan Hyslop from Barfoot & Thompson Glen Eden, but banks are still scrutinising borrowers. So your first question is, can you get the funding you need?

Funding can come from various sources; banks are the most common. Advisers know how banks work and will maximise the chances of success with your home loan application.

Get organised early and change your spending habits and account behaviour. Banks need to see at least three months of flawless account behaviour. Ensure direct debits and automatic payments are made – they'll note any missed payments.

Avoid using an overdraft facility. Rein in non-essential spending. Don't go into unauthorised overdraft.

Banks want to know how you will cope with the costs of home ownership. This includes mortgage repayments, rates, maintenance and insurance. Show the bank that you can pay your rent, and save enough cash, to equate to the cost of owning your own home.

“Buy now, pay later” schemes that encourage you to buy stuff are enticing but can end up being costly, and detract from your credit rating. Pay cash if you really need something.

For many first-home buyers, a KiwiSaver withdrawal forms a big part of the deposit. It's a great scheme, especially when you combine it with the First Home Grant.

June Glen Eden statistics
There were 30 sales.
Average price: \$776,700.
Highest: \$1,271,000.
Lowest: \$405,000.

Welcome to the Māori Wardens



Glen Eden Business Association has partnered with community ambassadors, the Waitemata Māori Wardens, to help build relationships with those in our community who are in need of guidance and support to deal with social issues. Funding permitted, it is hoped they will be a permanent fixture in Glen Eden Village. Their message? – Aroha ki te tangata (Respect for people).

Win a \$50 voucher to dine in Little India!

How many times do the words 'Little India' appear in total in this issue of *The Voice*? Email your answer and name and address to villagevoiceeditor@yahoo.com by the 15th. You could win a \$50 voucher to dine in Little India Glen Eden. Congratulations to our June winner, Ian Green and son Lucas.



Reaction to Council's emergency budget

Auckland Council has made its decision on the Covid-19 emergency budget.

We at the local board supported the currently programmed 3.5% rates increase. This was the minimum to adequately continue with current growth-related infrastructure programmes as well as provide help with the Covid rebuild. Any significant cut would be devastating.

We supported the rates postponement policy for households and businesses suffering financial hardship and the suspension of the targeted rate paid for by accommodation providers.

We urged that planning for the Glen Eden upgrade continues and requested funding to complete the business case.

We asked that environmental projects and programmes be given priority. We requested that Council continue to prioritise climate action because we are running out of time to transform the city into a sustainable one.

We opposed the proposed deferral of community safety transport projects and requested that the Glen Eden pedestrian safety project to upgrade West Coast Road be prioritised.

We opposed Council's continued investment in the America's Cup event. We could not see the benefit and think the money would be better spent elsewhere.

We opposed the sale of Council properties purely for the purpose of Covid-19 revenue generation.

The Council decided to confirm the 3.5% increase in rates. Pleasingly the Council listened to local board requests and found the money so that the cuts to our LDI did not go ahead. They also realised the importance of libraries by not cutting library hours and found some money for transport safety projects.

More details should emerge in the next few weeks as the implications of the decisions are processed.



Greg Presland
Co-chair

Waitākere Ranges
Local Board
Auckland Council



On the Beat...

with Constable Rob Manson



IN LIGHT of the tragedy last month in Glenmall Place, it's a good time to remind everyone to stay focused behind the wheel when driving through the mall as we all know it's a very congested road with lots of pedestrians.

There's an easy way to remember this. Think of RIDS – Restraints, Impairment, Distraction, Speed.

Wearing seatbelts, staying off cellphones and slowing down is a great start to keeping everyone safe.

Also if anyone has child seats or booster seats they want me to look at to check compliance, I am happy to do so. Come and see me at the Safety Hub on most days from 12pm to 1pm.

Above: Rob (on the left) with his fellow Community Constables



Haere Mai & Welcome

Keen to get involved in your local neighbourhood?

Haere Mai & Welcome to Glen Eden is a creative initiative designed to give new residents all the information they need to find their feet in the neighbourhood.

To get involved or to see what's been happening so far, please visit:

www.welcomeneighbours.nz

Our online hub features a wide range of local community groups, clubs, and businesses in Glen Eden, so new community members have **all the information in one place.**



Waikare Ranges Local Board



We've supported **107** community groups that were impacted by COVID-19



View a list of recipients from the Your West Support Fund at thetrusts.co.nz/support



RSA



Glen Eden RSA
9 Glendale Road
Tel: 818 4219

www.glenedenrsa.co.nz
See our Facebook page
for daily updates

15 August: 'Woodstock Festival' Theme Night with live music by Kara Gordon & Friends

Thursday Club Night

Happy Hour 5pm-6pm,
Jokers Wild, Monster Raffles,
members' attendance draw.
Aussie Rules 8-ball
competition. Check-in
7.45pm - all welcome.

Fridays from 5pm

Happy Hour 4pm-6pm,
members' attendance draw,
sport on big-screen TVs,
spot prizes, meat raffles.
Karaoke with Ben & Marie
at 8pm. Free entry.

The Foothills Restaurant

Lunch: Thursday & Friday
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Dinner: Thursday, Friday
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Tickets for events are available at the bar beforehand or at the door on the night.
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