

# Northland News

Northland Memorial Community Centre

5 Woburn Road  
Northland Wellington 6012  
04 475 8511

**Celebrating 55 years  
1958 - 2013**

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New president for Lions

Northland Memorial Community Centre is supported by Wellington City Council

## It's yours...help us keep it!

**Long-standing president Richard Blows and treasurer Bronwyn Donaldson stood down at the last annual meeting in May. There is no one to replace them. Together they had contributed over 18 years' service to the community centre.**

Stephen Stewart, now acting president, vice-president and secretary is appealing to the community to help to run the centre. Without more people on its management committee, it may have to come under direct control of Wellington City Council. That would be a shame and especially ironic, he says, as the centre was born 55 years ago from a community desperate for a centre of their own. "Do we want to let down the far-sighted people who set up this place, which has served and been used by so many for all this time? It's time others got involved in helping to run it, otherwise the community risks having a vastly different

centre than the one which has served Northland and Wilton for more than half a century." Stephen, himself on the Centre Council for almost 20 years, is only staying on in a caretaker role to aid any incoming committee members. As well as being vice president he has also been acting secretary since the death of Lesley O'Cain in 2011, who had served over 10 years on the NMCC Council. Despite appeals for someone to replace her, no one came forward.



The centre's council now comprises himself, acting grants officer John Bickerton, new treasurer and former After School Care representative John Greenwood, Scouts representative John Roberts, and Harbour City Rock n' Roll's Dennis Thistoll. That means the committee will struggle to get a quorum.

*"With all of these people using the centre, there must be someone who wants to give a little back to it,"*

**Northland has two options. The first is for Northland people to continue managing NMCC as they have for over 50 years. The local community runs the centre, and manages it in a way that reflects the community's needs. This has always worked well, the centre is successful and viable. The second option, which will be the only option if we can't meet the requirements of our constitution, is to hand the management of the Northland Memorial Community Centre to Wellington City Council.**

It is difficult to say what changes will be made if this happens, but surely a community can meet the needs of its people better than a local council? It is up to you Northland. To do nothing means choosing the WCC to run your community centre, like they do already in suburbs such as Island Bay. Anyone wishing to help can phone the centre on 475 8511, email it at [northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz](mailto:northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz) or call Stephen Stewart on 475 8806 (email is [sasmesnz@hotmail.com](mailto:sasmesnz@hotmail.com))

## KERERU ★ KIDS Holiday Programme

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The centre has two part-time employees, Angelina Kirk who co-ordinates most community activities at the hall and assistant Sil Graham who helps her and also looks after day-to-day accounts and administration. The community centre is owned by Wellington City Council, which maintains the building and pays the staff's wages, but the management committee and the coordinator are responsible for its day-to-day activities.

The activities have changed a lot in the last year, with Northland Pre-School moving premises after 22 years, meaning the lower hall is now empty during most of the day, plus the abrupt end of the Friday night drop-in centre for young people recently after WCC declined its funding. The centre's school holiday programme is also continuing in the interim under reduced financing.

On the "plus" side, however, the centre has built up a healthy financial balance to cater for the loss of income because of the pre-school's departure, there's a new \$50,000-plus heating system courtesy of WCC, and the main hall should have a newly polyurethaned floor early next year.

The centre has longstanding close links with Northland School which relies on the main hall for big school events, and many pupils' families utilise the after school care programme that runs every school day in the lower hall. It's also the venue for the biggest Rock 'n Roll club in Wellington region. Not forgetting, of course, decades of involvement with Scouts, with hundreds of young people benefiting from its facilities over the years. Many other community activities also take place in the centre, karate, Zumba, badminton, children's sport groups, yoga and mah jong being just some of them.

"With all of these people using the centre, there must be someone who wants to give a little back to it," says Stephen, adding that as the reason for his long-standing involvement.



## at St. Anne's

St Anne's has its own Messy Church service. This meets once a month—on the 3rd Sunday afternoon of the month, in the hall & the worship space between 2-4pm.

### What is Messy Church?

Being church for families who might want to meet Jesus, belong to their local church & bring up their children as Christians but can't cope with traditional Sunday morning church services. A once-a-month time of creativity, worship & eating together. It explores the Bible through:

- creativity
- eating together
- all in an all-age context
- celebration



## Northland Bus Proposals

In the last edition of the Northland News the GWRC outlined the changes to the original bus proposal for services to Northland. The Transport Design team were still convinced that the number 13 bus was not worth keeping based on the information they had. Thanks to the emails received from you via the community centre, and representatives at the May meeting, the number 13 bus might still have a future.

Below is an update from Nigel Taylor regarding the outcomes of the meeting held in May between Northland representatives and the GWRC Transport Team.

Also below is just one of the emails sent through to NMCC from Tim, a concerned commuter. Email the community centre at [northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz](mailto:northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz) if you want your voice to be heard. Now is the time to give feedback before the changes are made and there is no going back.

### Update on the Recent Changes to the Northland Bus Proposal

A huge THANK YOU to all those people who made a submission, collectively you made more submissions on Bus 13 than any other bus route in Wellington. Well done! It certainly made your representatives work so much easier.

In early May Nigel Taylor, representing the Northland Memorial Community Centre, and other community representatives from the Northland and Wrights Hill area, met with the Wellington Bus Review team and two members of the Greater Wellington Regional Council to discuss proposed route changes and the draft timetable.

The outcome of the meeting was very positive. A small group of representatives from Northland will meet with the Wellington Bus Review team in early June to discuss potential options for continuing route 13. We will update you in the next newsletter.

Other points to note are that there was recognition that the Route 22/23 was one of the more unreliable (least like to stick to the schedule) routes in the city. The route is the longest one in the city, and that congestion on The Terrace was a factor in the evenings. In future it is highly likely that some Route 22 buses will start at Brandon Street.

Please note that no changes to any bus routes will be made before 2015.

Nigel can be contacted via Angelina, the Northland Memorial Community Centre Coordinator, at [northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz](mailto:northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz).

### Feedback Letter on Northland Bus Proposals

Hello there,

I read the recent Northland News article about proposed bus route changes with interest, especially GWRC's justification of some changes and choices. Some of them sound unrealistic.

continued on page 3

## Coordinators Corner



I live on Glenmore Street, which currently has routes 3, 13, and 21. Often in the mornings, they are full from before Karori tunnel, and people wait ages for a bus with spaces to come past. The proposals seem to offer less buses down the Glenmore st route. Feedback I've recently sent to GWRC on this has met with a response that suggests the routes are set barring significant community objection; so please feel free to email them via the Northland Memorial Community Centre if you'd like to see more buses continuing on Glenmore St.

If not for us on the Glenmore routes, then people in Northland/Mairangi main areas might also want to email in considering these points;

- The Glenmore st route used by the #13 is significantly faster than the winding, traffic-light filler and bottlenecked Kelburn route – much faster than GWRC suggest in their comments reported in the recent Northland News article.
- The Proposed #23 will take even longer to get to much of the CBD if it swings through the train station.
- Having some #23/#13s start at Brandon street would indeed solve some timing issues getting through the CBD
- The Highbury route that is currently planned to shuttle between the cable car top and Highbury (necessitating changes or unsheltered walks for nearly all passengers), could instead use the space freed up if some #23s are exchanged for #13s to go all the way to the station, doubling as the station-campus link.

This would all combine to offer a much more effective and streamlined service for both Northland and the Glenmore St valley, and help out other suburbs, like Highbury, and students needing the right links.

Separately, I also wonder whether the Crofton Downs people would like the #23 to do some sort of loop through their suburb/up their hill.

Further, I advocate keeping the #47, as it allows people in the north/west suburbs to link together without having to go in/out of the CBD en-route; the #47's fate has apparently not been decided yet.

So, for the transport needs of the Glenmore st people, and for the speed and effectiveness of all Northland residents, I'd suggest anyone who supports the ideas mentioned above email GWRC via NMCC about it; they seem to want numbers to change the plans.

Thanks for consideration  
Tim

## Space for hire at NMCC

Large space available for hire at the Northland Memorial Community Centre from as little as \$12.50 per hour! Now that Northland Preschool has moved into their new home the opportunity exists for hiring out the Lower Hall. The space is child friendly with an outdoor area, kitchen, toilets and possible office space. Contact Angelina at the community centre for more information.

At the AGM in May, Richard and Bronwyn resigned from the NMCC Council after giving many years of service. They ensured the smooth running of the centre, and were incredibly supportive to work with. Both used their community minded, intelligent, financially savvy skills to manage the centre and enjoyed a laugh along the way. They will be missed.

Their resignations may have huge consequences for the community centre and the future management structure. Unless people such as yourself come forward to help NMCC will have to be handed to WCC. If this happens it is highly possible the Northland News you are now reading (published and delivered by the NMCC and supporters for over 60 years) won't be produced. WCC policy does not support community newsletters, they declined funding the Northland News and no community centre managed by WCC publishes one.

There may be challenges ahead for the centre, but nothing this community can't cope with. Northlanders and our neighbours have a history of fighting for what we believe is important, like establishing the memorial centre, saving the old tramway toilets and currently the community is fighting to retain the number 13 bus.

Last year the Creswick Valley Residents Association prevented the WCC from allowing a developer to build a monstrous Mitre 10 in the Curtis Street valley with no consultation.

If you want your centre to remain in the hands of the community then the community needs to get involved. Join the committee and help us plan and make decisions; volunteer to deliver our Northland News; or perhaps you have skills and services that you are prepared to share.

Northland and Wilton have many talented and caring people within their communities. The centre needs you, it needs fresh ideas and enthusiasm to make the centre stronger and more resilient for the future.

Keep warm and healthy

Centre Coordinator

Angelina Kirk



The NMCC crew - photo taken by Richard at our final meeting with him and Bronwyn Front- Sil Graham, Middle from left- Richard Blows, Angelina Kirk, Bronwyn Donaldson and John Greenwood. Back – Stephen Stewart. When Richard was asked about his experience on the NMCC he had this to say "Stephen Stewart recruited me into NMCC where initially I was a committee member active on various tasks such as the Northland Memorial Community Centre Questionnaire and working within the team to review our Centre room rental rates to provide standard transparent rental rates. I then served as President of NMCC which involves chairing the monthly Centre meetings, interacting with WCC, and assisting Angelina and Sil from time to time. I got to meet people in the community who I have never met before, and I enjoyed the sense of achievement in completing things which were of benefit to the community".

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**



Kereru Kids July School Holiday Programme

	<b>Week one</b> <b>July 15<sup>th</sup> - July 19<sup>th</sup> 2013</b>
<b>Monday</b> <u>Rahina</u>	<b>Manic Monday</b> Games, icebreakers, and a massive manic challenge
<b>Tuesday</b> <u>Ratu</u>	<b>Trip Day Tuesday</b> Trip to the Movies
<b>Wednesday</b> <u>Raapa</u>	<b>Winter Wednesday</b> Make Soup for lunch Keep warm with the Push Play trailer
<b>Thursday</b> <u>Raapere</u>	<b>Trip Day Thursday</b> <b>Swimming at Karori Pools and visit to the library</b>
<b>Friday</b> <u>Ramere</u>	<b>Freaky Friday</b> Kids are the boss today! Baking. Shared party lunch



Gabriele making Anzac poppies on our "We Remember Them" day during our April school holiday program. The kids made poppies, baked Anzac biscuits, sang a war time song, learnt about each others great granddad's roles during the war, and discovered why NMCC has 'memorial' in its name.



Matua Hemi teaching Jaxson how to play the guitar during the April holiday program.

**Where:** Northland Memorial Community Centre  
5 Woburn Road  
Northland

**Time:** 8am - 6pm

**Contact:** Angelina Kirk, Centre Coordinator  
04 475 8511  
northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz

**Kereru Kids is CYF & OSCAR approved and a not for profit school**

Please consider us next time you hear of someone needing holiday care

**Northland Toy Library**

Northland Toy Library is a friendly community-based toy library. Open every Saturday 9.30-11.45 except Christmas school holidays. For enquiries e-mail northlandtoylibrary@gmail.com or come and see us at St Anne's church hall, Cnr of Randwick & Northland Roads.

Fees are \$75/year. Grandparent and CSC memberships available.

[www.findyourmidwife.co.nz](http://www.findyourmidwife.co.nz)

**Find Your Midwife New Website**

"Find Your Midwife" is a new website service that allows women to quickly find an available midwife in their area. The service has been developed by the NZ College of Midwives with funding from the Ministry of Health, and its features include:

- a due date calculator;
- the ability to search for midwives by: due date, locality, and preferred place of birth (hospital, birthing centre or home);
- a list of qualified midwives who hold a current Annual Practising Certificate, are members of the NZ College of Midwives, and are currently practicing;
- up-to-date information about each midwife's month-by-month availability (this is regularly updated); and
- written profiles of each midwife and contact details.

Excerpts courtesy of the Rural Women New Zealand publication The Bulletin Aotearoa

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## Excercise Fun

The Exercise Class at NMCC on a  
**Wednesday morning at 9am**

offers a combination of yoga postures, pilates strengthening and chi kung exercises.

Run by physiotherapist Jennifer Brennan. All welcome. For more information please contact Jennifer on 0279544044.

## Youth Drop In Centre Funding Cut

The Youth Drop In was established out of a need for 'tweens' to have a place to hang out in a safe environment. Kids between the ages of 10 – 14 enjoy having a parent free space to play games, let off steam and make new friends, and the community centre is the perfect place for this.

The Friday Night Drop In started over 10 years ago and was run by parents on a roster to begin with. A WCC grant to pay youth workers to run the Drop In was gratefully accepted in 2004.

Since then Youth Drop In has continued to have a small, but regular group of children who come to enjoy the community centres facilities on a Friday night. Pool, indoor hockey, basketball and dodgeball are usually the games of choice. The rollerskates are also popular, and Northland must surely have the best boy rollerskaters in town!

Unfortunately WCC declined our Drop In funding in the last lot of funding rounds. This has meant that we have had to close the Youth Drop In as we have no money to pay our youth workers wages.

NMCC would love to have this fantastic Friday night activity to continue however we need your support. The St Anne's recent survey on the needs of the Northland community listed youth activities as one of its top two priorities. We need feedback from you and your family. Do you have children that attended Friday Night Drop In? Or children that will come when they turn 10? What would you like to see the future Youth Drop In look like?

If you have other ideas in terms of youth activities for our community then also get in touch.

Unless we get enough support from the community WCC or other possible funders will not be inclined to help us.

Please contact the centre coordinator Angelina on 475-8511 or email [northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz](mailto:northlandmemorialcc@paradise.net.nz).

## 2013-2014 Community Law Manual

The latest manual, published in print by Community Law o Aotearoa, will be available in July, and for the first time, it includes a comprehensive chapter on community organisations and the law. The new chapter is based on the content of the "keeping it Legal" website, which is closing down on 31 July 2013. You can order your Community Law Manual 2013–2014 by email - [info@wclc.org.nz](mailto:info@wclc.org.nz) - for \$100 (discounted price for individuals and community organisations)

Excerpts courtesy of the Rural Women New Zealand publication The Bulletin Aotearoa

## Northland Memorial Community Centre Special General Meeting

You are invited to a Special General Meeting to be held on the fourth Thursday (22nd) in August (prior to the usual Northland Memorial Community Centre Council meeting) at 7pm in the Memorial Room. This will be to determine whether NMCC continues to be managed by the community or is handed over to the Wellington City Council. If you are able to make a contribution in running the community centre then please come along to the meeting.

All Welcome

## St Anne's Parish Fair - see you there!

Saturday 28 September, at the Northland Memorial Community Centre.

Books, deli, plants, toys, craft, white elephant, lots of yummy food for lunch – and much more!

## Friday Night Youth Drop In

Unfortunately our funding to employ staff to run the Friday Night Youth Drop In Centre has been cut by WCC and will not be running until further notice.

## Community-Driven Emergency Management Volunteers - We want you!

The Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) works with people in our community to promote preparedness and increase the resilience of our region to withstand an emergency event.

Volunteers help residents of the Wellington Region get prepared for an emergency by promoting emergency preparedness with their own networks and at local events, such as festivals and community fairs. This is one of the most valuable actions our volunteers can do in their community.

During an emergency, volunteers may be asked to staff an Emergency Welfare Centre, or play another critical role in a response. During a large emergency, CD Volunteers play a vital role supporting the community with their response at a Civil Defence Centre.

Volunteers participate in exercises and events throughout the year to maintain their skills and relationships with each other and Civil Defence staff.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, please register at [www.gw.govt.nz/CDEM-Volunteer](http://www.gw.govt.nz/CDEM-Volunteer)  
Soon the GWRC will have 200 litre home water storage tanks available for purchase for under \$100. Keep up to date with the progress on the following website <http://www.gw.govt.nz/emergencies-and-hazard-management/>



## New President for Lions

Tinakori Lions are just starting a new Lions year with a few changes to our board. We have a new President Joanne Innes.

Our Mah Jong fun day held at Wilton Bowling club in April was a great success. We had seventy two people taking part & raised \$1650 for Ronald McDonald House. The past year we had several successful fund raising projects, including contributing equipment for the Northland Community Preschool. Hopefully the coming year will be as successful.

We are always on the look out for new members. If you are interested in joining a small friendly service club & helping with fund raising & community projects please contact us. We meet twice a month every first & third Thursday of the month at 6pm at the Northland Memorial Community Centre.

Jean Marsden (Tinakori Lions Publicity Officer)  
President Lion Joanne Innes 476 6133  
Secretary Elspeth Sanson 970 1905



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### Easier Access to Government Services for Deaf NZers

Deaf people will soon have easier access to frontline government services thanks to a new video remote interpreter service. Video remote interpreting uses video internet technology to connect a remotely-based NZ Sign Language interpreter with a face-to-face meeting between a hearing government worker and a Deaf person.

The new service will start on 1 September 2013 in provincial areas (these areas are more affected than urban areas by a shortage of sign language interpreters). Information on video remote interpreting and how to use it will be shared with the Deaf community from August 2013.

More is at <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA1305/S00358/better-easier-access-to-frontline-govt-for-deaf-nzers.htm>

### Te Reo Maori Now Part Of Online Sign Language Dictionary

Deaf NZers now have access to te reo vocabulary, in addition to English, in the Online Dictionary of NZ Sign Language (NZSL). The online dictionary is one of the first in the world to feature three languages.

The Online Dictionary of NZSL was launched in 2011, and features 4,500 signs alongside English language definitions. The online dictionary is at <http://nzsl.vuw.ac.nz/>

Excerpts courtesy of the Rural Women New Zealand publication The Bulletin Aotearoa

## The Story of the Northland Memorial Community Centre

By Angelina Kirk

NMCC is the only community centre in Wellington that is a war memorial. It was established following World War 2 when the Northland community recognised the need for a social and recreational facility in the local area and began fundraising.

It was a remarkable goal for the 1940's. There were no other community centres in Wellington, and they were not supported by local council at the time.

A committee was set up and the Northland News was first published as a way to inform the community about plans for a centre. Northlanders were asked what they wanted the centre to look like and a plan was created that included a large recreation hall and RSA meeting rooms.

The community held gala's at the school and did bottle drives, there were beauty shows and bake sales, and locals joined the NMCC membership fund and contributed fees. Finally, after 10 years of dedication and sweat, the Northland/Wilton community managed to raise 48,000 pounds.

The Labour government at the time had a 'pound for pound' policy regarding war memorials. The condition was that the war memorial had to be useful, and something the whole community would benefit from.

With the addition of this government grant the Northland Memorial Community Centre became a reality.

Land was purchased, and a loan was taken to cover the shortfall of the build. Plans were drawn up and in 1958 the centre was completed.

NMCC is governed by an incorporated society. To register as an incorporated society at the time the land had to be vested with a local or national governing body.

Meetings were held with the Wellington City Council who eventually agreed to purchase the land the centre was on, which is how the WCC came to own NMCC.

However it's because of the long term commitment and incredible foresight of past Northlanders that we have our unique, historical and versatile community centre to enjoy today

### Northland-Wilton Emergency Response Plan

The NMCCC and a representative from WREMO plan to facilitate a series of meetings to cultivate a response plan to ensure our community is as resilient as possible. Representatives from businesses, schools, churches, and other interested members in the community will be invited to attend four evening meetings to share information and plan what services Northland will need during and following an emergency event. If you are interested in emergency management and wish to be involved in this process please contact Angelina at the centre.