

AN OCCASIONAL & SEASONAL NEWSLETTER  
FOR THE OWNERS/RESIDENTS OF  
DEVON PARK  
NUMBER TEN. NOVEMBER 2014

# THE DEVON PARK BODY CORPORATE COMMITTEE COMMUNIQUE TOWERPAINTING



As we said in the last newsletter some remedial paintwork needed to be done on the northern exterior main structural frame of the tower (and we decided to paint the southern frame to bring it up to scratch at the same time).

It was determined that the best way to do this was by abseiling down the faces to be worked on; once the abseil attachment points were added to the top of the tower the work proceeded without fuss, thanks to the intrepid men of 'Strings Attached'.

Not exactly 'Mission Impossible' but it has that look about it! Anyone want to volunteer to be Quality Control Inspector?

## Contents: News and Reminders

In this newsletter we bring you up to date with some of the activities that have happened recently and some that are about to start.

And we've included some timely reminders about things that help to make Devon Park work as well as it does and help to make it the great place that it is.



## No.1 Suggestion 'Exchange' box

It seems the 'Give Away and/or Exchange' drop box has been too successful, with some donated items well beyond their use-by date. Please remember the aim is for the exchange of books, magazines and any other items that are in good condition and may be of use to another resident.

## No.2 Reminder Herb garden

The herb garden at the North end of the main garage block seems to be flourishing, so this may be an opportune time to remind everyone that it's there for us all, but would you please use scissors when you're taking your herbs – they'll last longer (the herbs, that is). And please - feel free to plant herbs of your choice if what's there is not what you like.

## No.3 Information New planting

Our western garden boundary has been improved with the removal of a tree which was causing serious damage to the adjacent kerbing and car park and new planting and landscaping. Check it out next time you're passing.

## No.4 Information Foyer project

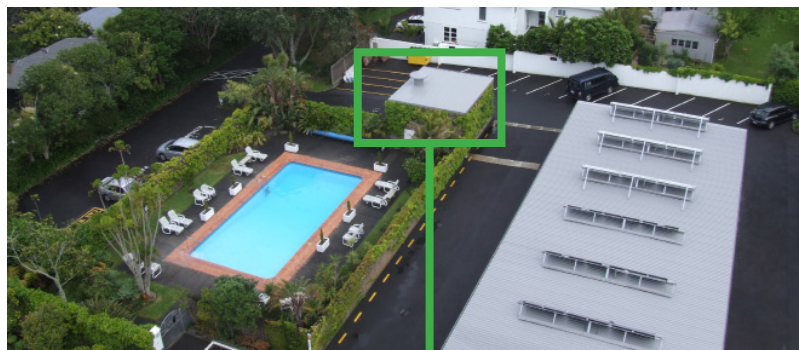
Update:  
As a precursor to the foyer upgrade, moving and upgrading the fire panel (part of overall plan to upgrade the fire detection system and a necessary step

*Continued on page 3:*

## POOL PUMP HOUSE ROOF REFURBISHED

Even some residents in the tower may not have noticed this, and certainly 'wing residents' wouldn't know that the pool pump house has had its roof renewed and is now better able to protect the valuable equipment it contains. The work has been on our maintenance plan for some time and when the door frame and new door are installed we will have finished our tasks in this area. As you can see, the roof is now up to the standard you'd expect of Devon park.

Some of the pool equipment has also been upgraded; we have



a new filter to replace the one that reached its 'use by date' at the end of last summer, and we have a new filter pump.

Together they will ensure that the pool is in tip-top condition, not only for this summer, but for many summers to come.

As well, the pool cover which was damaged in last year's big July storm has been repaired and some of the loose tiles around the pool have been re-attached. All we need now is for the weather-man to send us some sunny weather and we'll all be happy!



## No5 Reminder Garage doors

Residents who have garages with rear doors on to the central access corridor are reminded that these doors should be locked whenever you leave your garage.

And please remember to lock the outer door when you leave the garage corridor.

*Long ago, when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf. Will Rogers*

## JETTY STEPS REFURBISHED

Again, not everybody would know this because not many of us use it, but for some time now our jetty, at the bottom of the bush walk, has been suffering at the hands of Mother Nature.

Metal components have been rusting and wood has been cracking, splitting and rotting (as wood does when left out in the open). We knew that the time was fast approaching when we would have to attend to all this...

Enter Andrew MacKenzie, a qualified surveyor and tower resident. Andrew offered to do the necessary repairs, for just the cost of materials. We accepted... the work is almost done... and our jetty is now as good as new! Thank you Andrew.

All that's needed now to finish the job is a new coat of paint, and we'll do that in the near future – when the weather settles down.

## No.6 Information Cliff face weeds

Another from the "not everybody would know this" department:

The south face of our property (facing the harbour that is) was recently found to have a large patch of *Elaeagnus* creeper (a notified plant/noxious weed\*) which under the City Council rules required our urgent attention to have it removed.

*Continued on page 5:*

## No.7 Information B-B-Qs

The committee has been asked a number of times about modifying the 'No BBQ' rule at Devon Park. It is proposed that we table a motion at the 2015 AGM to change the Operational Rules to allow for a 12 month trial period when BBQs can be used on apartment balconies. Changes to the Operational Rules are subject to a vote at a general meeting and it may be decided that there may be limits on the type of BBQ and the hours of use.

**The committee welcomes comments and ideas from residents on this or any other matter.**

## No.5 Reminder On-site work

An important reminder: if you are arranging any work on your property that involves the use of trades-people **you must let Dennis know, in advance**, about what's happening, and when. It's important that the Trades are made aware of our rules\* regarding parking, hours of work, movement of materials, cleaning and rubbish disposal. And of course Dennis has to advise other residents in good time of any noise or other disturbances which may occur. At least a week's notice would be appreciated.

**If this is not done Dennis has the right to stop the work.**

## PLUS

### \*RENOVATION RULES

The Renovation Rules update is nearly finished.

Just one or two more rounds of proofing/amendments to go and the new document will be made available 'on demand' to any owner contemplating renovations.

*Continued from page 2:*

to ensuring the ongoing security and safety of the tower) will be getting under way very soon. Further updates will follow...

**Yay!  
Everybody**

**The Pool is open**

*Speaking of pools:*  
If swimming is so good for your figure, how do you explain whales?

See the comment on the next page regarding  
**Pool Etiquette**

ADVERTISEMENT

## ROLL UP! ROLL UP! FOR A ROLL-UP

Whether or not you know your Jack from your Mat, your bias from your toucher, or your green from your rink, you'll be welcome at our Wednesday roll-ups. We can provide newcomers with bowls and 'starting' tips, and of course, if you're an experienced bowler you'll fit right in. See you on Wednesdays for all that's best about bowls. Call 09 445 4488 or 021 460 840 for the full story.

Your friendly local club

**STANLEY BOWLING CLUB**

Stanley Bowling & Petanque Club (Inc)

*A bowling club... and so much more*





## No.7 Information & Reminder **POOL ETIQUETTE**

As distinct from pool rules, these are thoughtful, considerate things to be aware of:

Parents please remember that children\* under 12 years old should always be accompanied by an adult.

Running around the pool edge can be dangerous especially when the tiles are wet – walking is good.

Always leave room for the 'serious' swimmers and please avoid splashing the sunbathers! The pool should be a fun place, and it's here for everyone to enjoy.

## No.8 NEWS **TREES**

Anyone who has lived here for more than a couple of years or so will know what a battle we have had to get consents for tree management on our property and how long it takes to get council approval for any work within the 'designated coastal strip'.

We have finally got to the end of that process and have had the contractors (Asplund) here to do the work we are allowed to do.

Given that it's not possible to please everyone all the time, and that we have to work within the conditions of the consent, we hope that the trimming and thinning they have done will please most people.

It is our intention to make 'tree management' a more regular effort to protect the quality of our bush area and to keep growth under control, but how much we do and how often we do it will still depend on the council's good offices (officers?).



This will be our last newsletter of the year, so...

*Merry Christmas  
Everyone*

May your festive season be joyous, your holidays relaxing and your New Year the best ever.



\*While we're talking about children here are a few bits of wisdom from some young ones...

"Solomon had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines."

"Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sahara Desert."

The climate of the Sahara is such that all the inhabitants have to live elsewhere."

"In the Olympic games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled biscuits and threw the java."

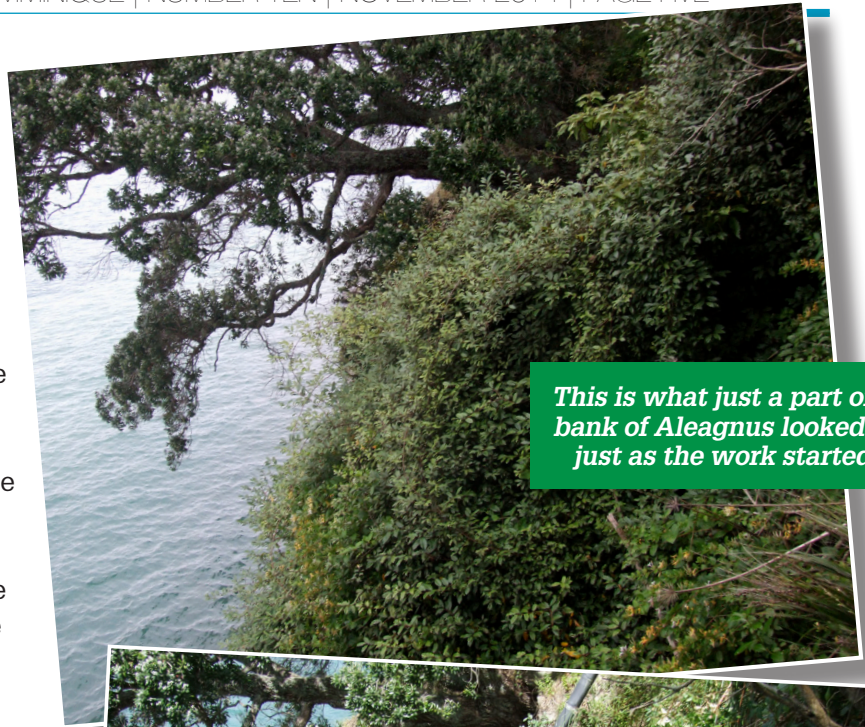
"Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advice."

They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock and after his death his career suffered a dramatic decline.



*Continued from page 3:*

You'll be pleased to hear that on a full tide and a calm day, the work has been done... A team of three from Tree Scape, worked for a considerable time to cut the growth away from the cliff so that it could rolled down into a barge which had been nosed into the base of the cliff to catch it all. This was difficult work: the two 'cutters' on the bank had to abseil into position, wield their saws and manhandle the very prickly plant out over the bow of the barge. The barge was placed and held in just the right spot against the base of the cliff to complete the work. And when the Elaeagnus was cleared it exposed a small Pohutakawa which must have been struggling to find light amongst the dense creeper but now will be able to thrive.



*This is what just a part of the bank of Aleagnus looked like just as the work started...*



*The 'cutters' at work; severing supporting branches and rolling them away...*



*The barge catches it all, and carries it away to be disposed of. Easy!*