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VILLAGE

# VOICE

ISSUE 100 MARCH 2023 • LIVING, WORKING & SHOPPING IN GLEN EDEN



A trained CAB volunteer talks through consumer issues with a client.

## Congratulations to our local MP



In addition to other hats she so capably wears, our local MP, the Hon. Carmel Sepuloni, was recently appointed Deputy Prime Minister.

She's seen here last October greeting tenants of new Glen Eden apartments designed for older people.

We wish her success in her new role.

**O**ur Citizens Advice Bureau in the library building needs your help. Not just in Glen Eden but throughout the city, Auckland Council are considering cutting CAB funding – or even removing it completely.

If this happens, every bureau in Auckland faces the threat of permanent closure.

The CAB has been offering people free, confidential and non-judgemental advice for more than 50 years.

Their 900 highly trained volunteers help around 160,000 Aucklanders every year with issues ranging from everyday difficulties to finding their way through the trauma and complexity of bigger disasters. *Continued on page 3...*

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# When the unthinkable happens, where do you turn?

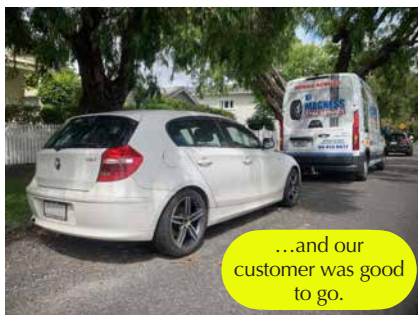
Imagine going out to your car one morning to discover someone has stolen all four wheels and tyres overnight. This actually happened to one unlucky person in our community recently. Fortunately we were soon on the spot to help. Our mobile service and talented team were able to get our customer on his way as soon as possible. Check out all the other services we offer at [www.magnesstyreservice.co.nz](http://www.magnesstyreservice.co.nz) or call 09 813 0077.



The unthinkable happened...



...we came to the rescue...



...and our customer was good to go.



The writer is Nick Magness, owner of Magness Tyre Service in Glenview Road

# Save our CAB

Continued from page 1...

They cover everything from consumer rights and medical support services right through to navigating MSD, advocacy, insurance, migrant support and so much more.

The CAB have been supporting people who lost everything in the devastating floods to access the help they need.

Not everyone is able to or comfortable with finding information online and this is another area in which the CAB provide invaluable service.

They will also be available to help with filling in forms during the upcoming census in March.

The CAB volunteers are trained specifically to help people from all backgrounds and circumstances to steer through the often confusing routes to the relevant assistance.

Don't let council kill off such a valuable community resource.

You can support the CAB by signing the petition in person at your local CAB or online at [www.cab.org.nz](http://www.cab.org.nz).

If you have ever been helped by the CAB, they would be thrilled if you would fill in a submission to council between 28 February and 28 March. This is on the Auckland council website at [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz).

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# How will the OCR rise affect home loans?



Robyn Rule of Barfoot & Thompson Glen Eden writes on property matters

Just over a week ago, the Reserve Bank increased the Official Cash Rate (OCR) by 0.50% to take it from 4.25% to 4.75%.

Many Kiwis were hoping Governor Orr might go easier this time round, maybe even pause hikes to provide relief to the economy and those most severely impacted after the recent North Island floods and Cyclone Gabrielle. However, supporting New Zealand's recovery is the Government's job, not the RBNZ's, so the increase was not unexpected.

This shift suggests that while the Reserve Bank feels there's still work to be done to get inflation back to acceptable levels, it's seeing strong signs that things are starting to come under control.

By opting for 0.50%, the RBNZ has done the best it can to strike the balance between going too hot (0.75%) – sending us hurtling for a hard landing – or too cold (0.25%) and potentially undoing the progress that's been made to date in the battle against inflation.

In terms of home loan rates, whilst floating rates will increase, a 0.50% OCR increase was already priced into the fixed rates in the market, so the good news is they shouldn't climb any further from here.

For now, it looks like the RBNZ is biding its time before any further OCR increase while it waits to see the full impact of previous hikes.

– Robyn, 021 055 3667

## January Glen Eden monthly statistics

19 sales totalling \$16,759,000.

Highest price: \$1,844,000.

Lowest: \$460,000. Average: \$882,000.

# War on Weeds postponed

The War on Weeds will be shifted to April this year, instead of the usual March dates, to give the community time to focus on cleanup and recovery efforts from the recent floods and storm.

From 1 to 30 April, extra weed bins will be provided around West Auckland to support locals to dispose of invasive weeds from their own backyards.

"We welcome any opportunity to help west Aucklanders do their bit to help keep invasive weeds out of the native bush we all love," says Mel Ward (below) from EcoMatters' Nature Team, who manages the bins, "but this year, we know many of us have other things on our minds right now."

Making the bins available during April will also help reduce traffic on the roads, so repairs can continue.

Invasive weeds accepted at the bins include climbing asparagus, Japanese honeysuckle, jasmine, moth plant, wild ginger, woolly nightshade and more.

Some weeds are already starting to form seed pods in March, so Mel is encouraging those who can do so, to bag up the seed pods/heads from moth plants and wild ginger to stop these from spreading.

Most bins will still be in their usual sites in April, but you can double check locations at [ecomatters.org.nz/war-on-weeds](http://ecomatters.org.nz/war-on-weeds). Henderson-Massey and Waitākere Ranges local boards are supporting this project.



## We want to hear your views

Auckland Council's planned consultation on this year's budget is a particularly important consultation.

Climate change mitigation and adaption should be Tamaki Makaurau Auckland's top priority but the proposed cuts in the 2023/2024 Annual Budget proposal have the potential to undermine that priority.

If confirmed by Council, the Waitākere Ranges Local Board's budget will be cut \$765,786 – nearly 10% of our budget for community delivery. Local environmental projects, the arts and community support will bear the brunt of these anticipated cuts.

The board is faced with having to severely curtail its weeds and predator control programmes as well as support for community environmental action. The recent flood-related slips clearly show that weed infested slopes are unstable and we urgently need to improve stability. And cuts will mean that we will have to curtail action on climate change at a time

when such action has never been more necessary.

Arts programmes and facilities that contribute greatly to the area will have to be cut. In particular, funding for Te Uru Gallery may be compromised, even though the gallery has transformed Titirangi since its opening and has improved business conditions in the village dramatically.

Community organisations that perform important work very efficiently will be drastically affected.

When the consultation starts it will be important to hear from everyone.

What do you value about the local board's activities and what are the areas where it is absolutely vital to maintain activity at current levels? We look forward to hearing your views.



Ngā mihi nui  
Greg Presland  
Chair

**Waitākere Ranges  
Local Board**  
Auckland Council





# Relief for West Aucklanders after the storm



Visionwest delivered food, cookers and SIM cards to Piha and Karekare communities which were without power.

Hundreds of families have received support using Visionwest's Flood and Storm Support Line

The Pātaka Kai and Whānau Centre supplied pallets of food, bedding and household items to Community Hubs and other organisations. The Community Housing teams took care of housing issues, both for those who required urgent accommodation and those who required follow-up support.

As community groups move to focus on longer-term support needs, the Money Mentors team is supporting whānau with issues relating to their finances, including help with benefits and insurance claims. Meanwhile, with many people experiencing shock and trauma as a result of their experiences, the Wellbeing Centre and Mātanga Oranga are providing counselling sessions.

Hundreds of families have already received support using Visionwest's Flood and Storm Support Line: call 0800 990 026 9am-4pm weekdays.

It takes a community to help get a community back onto its feet and, following the recent flooding in West Auckland, Glen Eden-based Visionwest Community Trust joined other community groups to mobilise quickly and play an active part in the relief response.

The strength of Visionwest lies in the experience of its trained staff and its wraparound support services and this is where Visionwest focused its relief efforts.

The immediate response was to provide staff to help at local Civil Defence Hubs and Community Hubs.

**Hon Carmel Sepuloni**   
**MP for Kelston**

Kelston electorate office  
 200C West Coast Rd,  
 Glen Eden, Auckland  
 09 818 4131  
 kelston.eo@parliament.govt.nz  
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Authorised by Carmel Sepuloni, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

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# Just for once, Glen Eden library was a real drag



Drag Queen Medulla Oblongata reading a story at Rhymetime as part of Pride Fest Out West on 23 February

## Special events

### Vegan Living

Saturday 18 March, 11am–12.30pm in the meeting room  
Join athlete Josh Howell and Amanda Sorrenson, National Coordinator of the Vegan Society, for a discussion about switching to a plant-based diet. Sample delicious vegan cheese and share recipes and tips.

### Recycled T-shirt book bags

Friday 24 March, 3.30pm–5pm  
Recycle your favourite old T-shirt into a book bag. No sewing required. Bring your own T-shirt. All ages are welcome.

### Seed bombs

Friday 31 March, 3.30pm–5pm  
Make seed bombs using recycled shredded paper and a planter box out of newspaper. Place them in your garden, water, and watch them grow. All ages are welcome.

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**They won a \$50 voucher to dine in Little India!**

Congratulations to the latest winners of this draw, Cam & Chanel Gray.

**SAVE AUCKLAND CABS**

## Replacing lost glasses

The terrible weather events with so much loss and damage may have involved you losing your precious prescription glasses, sunglasses or contact lenses.

This can be incredibly inconvenient and may even stop you from driving or being able to work.

If you have comprehensive Contents Insurance, that should cover you for replacement of the missing items, less any excess you may need to pay.

Some insurance companies will reduce your excess for claims on these items but you will need to discuss this with them.

If this has happened to you, we

do have a range of loan glasses that may get you through till your new glasses arrive. There is no fee for this service. In addition, if you are a contact lens wearer we can organise some trial contact lenses for you to use while you wait for your next order.

We also have direct relationships with some insurance companies, which means ease of processing your claim and having your glasses made up as soon as possible.

We are here to help and finally just want to say our thoughts are with those that have suffered from the major weather events that have affected our local community.



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## Regular programmes

### Children's Programmes

Regular children's programmes run during the school term on a weekly or fortnightly basis. No bookings needed. For more information and event updates, visit Glen Eden Library's Facebook page.

#### Wriggle & Rhyme

Wednesday 8 and 22 March  
11–11.30am

An interactive music-based programme for babies and toddlers, and their caregivers. Wriggle & Rhyme promotes active movement and brain development, exploring themes such as rolling, crawling and hand-eye coordination.

#### Rhymetime

Thursday 9 and 23 March  
10.30–11am

Rhymetime builds on the principles of Wriggle & Rhyme and sessions are perfect for toddlers and pre-schoolers

up to three years of age. The programme includes music, movement, rhymes, and stories.

#### LEGO Club

Weekly on Tuesdays  
3.30–5pm

Calling all brick builders! Bring your imagination along to this free-play session and see what you can make. Suitable for ages five and up.

#### Crafternoons

Friday 3, 17 and 31 March,  
3.30–5pm

An afternoon of fun crafts, suitable for school-aged children.

### Adult Programmes

#### Book Chat

First Wednesday of the month,  
10.30–11.30am

#### Shared Reading Group

Third Friday of the month, 10–11.30am

#### Job Café

Tuesdays during the school term,  
12.30–2.30pm

#### Citizens Advice Bureau

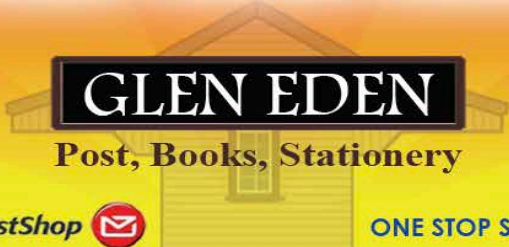
(adjoining library)

Open Monday–Thursday, 9am–4.30pm and Friday from 9am–12pm. Walk-in JP service 10am–12pm. Available by appointment only: Employment clinic Monday 1pm–3pm, counselling Wednesday 1pm–3pm, CV clinic Wednesdays (flexible timing) and legal clinic 1st Wednesday of month. For confidential free advice and support, call the friendly team on 09 818 6837 or email [gleneden@cab.org.nz](mailto:gleneden@cab.org.nz).


If you're keen to become a volunteer at CAB, they would love to hear from you.


## Your Local Store


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See Face Book for updates

**Saturday 4 March 7.30pm:**  
Memories of Elvis Fan Club present ELVIS by Che Orton (tickets \$20)

**Saturday 18 March 8pm:**  
Brown Brothers 20th Anniversary Show (tickets \$20)

**Every Thursday 7pm:**  
Believe It Or Not Quiz with Tess & Pam – win bar tabs

<p><b>Thursday Club Night</b> Happy Hour 5pm–6pm, Jokers Wild, Monster Raffles, members' draw. Aussie Rules 8-ball competition 7.45pm – all welcome.</p>	<p><b>Fridays from 5pm</b> Happy Hour 4pm–6pm, members' draw, sport on big- screen TVs, spot prizes, meat raffles. Karaoke with Ben &amp; Marie, 8pm. Free entry.</p>	<p><b>Foothills Restaurant</b> Dinner: Thursday–Sunday from 5.30pm. Lunch: Fridays 12–2pm. Live music Sundays 4–7pm</p>
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Tickets for most events are available at the bar beforehand or at the door on the night. New members and visitors welcome. Provisional membership lets you 'try before you buy'. Full membership now \$40. Lounge available for functions. Clubrooms open from 2pm to 9pm on public holidays.



*EGGcellent*  
\* **EASTER** \*  
**EXTRAVAGANZA!**



**Glenmall Place, Glen Eden**  
**Easter Saturday**  
**8th April 2023, 10am to 2pm**

-  Rides and activities for the kids
-  Giant Easter Egg hunt
-  Candyfloss, community stalls, facepainting
-  Musical entertainment from Bogan's Heroes

*Come and celebrate Easter with us!*