



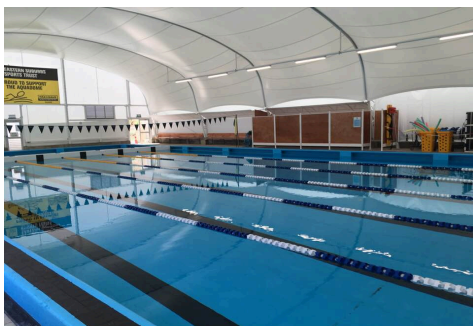
Well done Ian Garrett !

Congratulations to Ian Garrett for his wonderful colourful artistic submission for the Treasure Hunt poster competition we ran in late 2017. Thank you to everyone who took part. Keep an eye out for the poster & remember to save the date for this fun family focused event – Sunday 18th March from 2pm til BBQ time



Welcome to the Aquadome!

We now have a swimming pool right on our doorstep in Mt Vic. With funding help from WCC and other funding bodies and the drive of a wonderful Trust – we have the Aquadome in Mt Vic ready for use. Situated at Wellington East Girls College – there are swimming classes for all ages. Check it out : www.wellswim.co.nz or www.cityswim.co.nz



Ngā mihi ki a koutou.

Grant Robertson M.P.



2018 is shaping up to be a big year with many important issues for the Government to tackle. In Wellington, one of the big issues is housing.

The rental housing market in Wellington is tight. My office has received over a hundred stories highlighting significant weekly rent increases by some landlords.

Landlords will increase rents from time to time but it needs to be fair and reasonable. The Government is committed to increasing the supply of housing in Wellington and improving renter's rights.

Reading stories from Wellingtonians has confirmed how unjust a lot of the renting market really is in Wellington. It is very important that we address the inadequacies in renters' rights in New Zealand.

A lot of these issues will only be solved by changing the law to improve the rights of renters. The Government has this work underway. If you have feedback on aspects of tenancy law you'd like to see improved, let me know. In the meantime, we are chasing up a number of the cases that have been raised about rent increases and conditions.

Thank you so much for your support. Wishing you all the best for the start to what will be a big year.

Iona Pannett:

Well it has been quite a summer with record breaking temperatures. I hope that you have all managed to enjoy a good break over the holiday period. Housing continues to dominate the news and rightly so. The Council has made the provision of more affordable and safe housing a priority and there is clearly a need for it. The question is where will it go? Inner city suburbs like Mt Victoria have some planning controls and one of the issues that we will need to grapple with is are they appropriate? The city has experimented with high density housing here and in other heritage areas (with some local opposition) and allowed for medium density. The question is what development is appropriate and where?

On the local front, there are a number of issues to resolve. Firstly there are plans to demolish the JR Reid and CR Dempsey Gates at the Basin Reserve. I alongside some of my colleagues have concerns about that so discussions are ongoing.

Flooding issues continue to be an issue around the Basin Reserve and CBD so a CBD stormwater management plan is being developed which will go some way to responding to this issue.

Traffic safety continues to be an issue for me, especially for the many kids who go to school in our suburb. Speed management money is being debated through this year's Long Term Budget. Slowing the traffic is a must for me if kids are to be really safe. A safe way to cross Marjoribanks Street would also be good.

Iona Pannett 0212278509

iona.pannett@wcc.govt.nz



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BATS: NZ Fringe Festival

The New Zealand Fringe Festival is the biggest fringe in the country, and hands down BATS busiest time of year. Showcasing as many different kinds of shows as possible, we're sure there will be something for you. With 31 shows from New Zealand and international performers, we can safely say that BATS will be hopping during the month of March. Come stop by for your fix of comedy, improv, dance, music and drama, or just for a nice drink from the bar and the last of the evening sun.

This is just a small smattering of what we have on during New Zealand Fringe this March, and be sure to book at bats.co.nz:



The Travelling Sisters - March 12-16, 7pm - Winners of the Best Comedy at Melbourne Fringe 2017, The Travelling Sisters masterfully combine physical comedy, characters, and original music. It's a theme park ride for the soul.

Die Hard Rock Cafe Müller - Feb 22-March 3, 8.30pm - Die Hard Rock Cafe Müller combines elements of three well known pop culture/arts icons: the film Die Hard, the diner Hard Rock Cafe, and Pina Bausch's seminal dance work Café Müller. ChoreoCo by Footnote is a short-term company created especially for Fringe.

The Ballad of Frank Allen - March 22-29, 6.30pm - From the bizarre mind of Aussie Fringe-favourite Shane Adamczak comes an award-winning sci-fi buddy-comedy about a man who lives in another man's beard.



Mt Victoria Residents Association News

How about this weather? I hope you're enjoying the prolonged sunshine and warmth. Even though I've been back at work for three weeks and school's about to go back for the term – it feels like there's enough summer outside work and school hours to satisfy.

What has the Mt Victoria Residents' Association been doing over December and January?

-We've submitted to the **Let's Get Welly Moving** project on what we want to see over the whole of Wellington. You can have a look at the submission on our website.

-We met with some of the parties affected by planned developments in Elizabeth Street, as well as W.C.C. planning staff, to seek to understand how decisions have been made there. We want to see residents living in well-designed developments, of all sizes, that are sympathetic to the existing physical environment, as well as the people living around them. It's part of ongoing work to gain some transparency into the Council planning area's workings and decision criteria;

What's on the plan for February?

- We're getting ready to speak to our previous submissions to the Greater Wellington Regional Council's hearing panel for water quality and stormwater;

-We're looking at the Wellington City Council's proposed land swap at St Gerard's monastery, to see what can be done to avoid any degradation of the area and surrounding views;

We're reaching out to other residents' associations to see where we can work together – initially over transport issues facing all of us.

As always, we love to hear from you, about anything you need help or guidance with, or if you've got news for us. We're up for hearing the good things that happen here as well as the gripes.

To contact us about anything

Email: mtvicra@gmail.com

FB: Mt Victoria Residents Association

Website: <http://mvra.org.nz>

or call me on 021 188 7432.

Cheers, Angela

Victoria Bowling News 5th National Title in 5 Years!

Once again a sizeable contingent of Victoria Bowling Club members made their way to the National Champs over the New Year break, this time held in Dunedin. And once again for the 5th year in a row, the club came away with a National title! Leigh Griffin claimed her third national title in the women's fours teaming up with Canterbury sisters Angela and Mandy Boyd, and Sheryl McLean.

There were other notable performances too with 19 year old Bradley Down skipping his four to beat the eventual winning star-studded side of Ali Forsyth in fours section play. He then skipped in the pairs to the quarterfinals beating Dunedin international Mike Kernaghan along the way before going down to Shannon McIlroy.



Richard Corry, Jayden Ravji and Ray Martin (pictured) made it to the fours quarterfinals knocking over defending champ Peter Bellis in post-section. Richard and Ray also started the nationals well with Richard eliminating favourite Ali Forsyth and Ray beating Shaun Scott in singles section play.

The club is looking forward to being one of the host greens for the 2018-19 Nationals here in Wellington!

Margaret Austin Poetry Show

The inimitable Margaret Austin is performing in a production in the Fringe Bar on Sunday 18th February from 4pm. Reciting her poetry, reminiscing of times past in what will surely be a wonderful evening to experience & remember.



Toastmasters: Leadership

Carole attended a work "away day" recently. People were put into groups, and Carol found herself organising her group. "I wasn't the manager but I seemed to naturally take charge." She said she used language like "let's do this". "It was collaborative, inclusive. Everybody was with me. It wasn't hard. It wasn't forced. I just made clear that this is where we're going and what we're doing, and people followed along."

At the away day, there were people she'd not met before. "I mingled well, and I think I probably spoke to everybody."

She says that two years' ago she would not have done that. "I would have found an excuse not to go [on the away day]." Carol joined Mt Victoria Toastmasters almost two years ago. "I wanted to learn how to organise my thoughts when talking to people and to get my ideas across better."

The practice at public speaking that she's had at Toastmasters has made a real difference. "It's made me feel better about it. You learn to feel confident within yourself speaking in front of other people."

Today she feels more at ease about going up to someone and chatting. "Probably before I wouldn't have said anything to anybody." She's looking forward to chairing her first meeting soon.

Check out meeting times and location:

<https://mtvicttoastmasters.org.nz>

Mt Vic Treasure Hunt

We are running our Annual Neighbour's Day Treasure Hunt on Sunday 18th March 2018. Registrations will be at Clyde Quay School from 2pm and finishing with a community BBQ and music at Innermost Gardens from 4pm onwards.

Bring the family for a fun, activity filled day.

We are also on the lookout for some volunteers to help us on the day. If you would like to get involved please get in touch: hello@mtvichub.org.nz or text 021765525



Curious Historical Fact of the

Month: Did you know that around the 1860s/1870s a Mt Victoria gentleman manufactured his own coins and kept a pair of much-admired, live storks in his ornamental garden?

This was **Lipman Levy**, after whom two streets in Mt Victoria are named.

Want to know more about the heritage of our unique suburb?

Mt Victoria Historical Society has been researching its stories since 1996 and offers a huge range of events, guided walks and a quarterly newsletter packed full of interest.

Our next event, on March 11, is afternoon tea on Mt Victoria in honour of Mary Taylor who, 170 years ago, climbed Mt Victoria to look for a ship to take a letter to her friend, Charlotte Bronte, bearing congratulations on her novel *Jane Eyre*.

To find out more, join the Society before our next newsletter in February or come to afternoon tea.

For more information or to join MVHS contact jonewman@xtra.co.nz

or visit our website at <http://mvhs.wellington.net.nz/>.

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or email inquiries@circoloitaliano.org.nz
CLASSES START FEBRUARY!

Te Ra o Waitangi

Tuesday 6th February



Celebrate our national day with friends and whanau. There will be kai and kapa Haka, as well as live music to keep you entertained. Waitangi Day is all about coming together to celebrate our nation and what better place than Waitangi Park! There will be a line up of award winning Maori Performers.

Te Ra o Waitangi Programme:

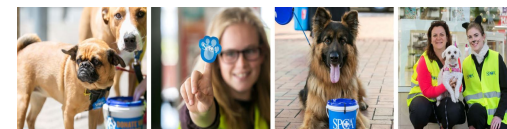
9am - Te Wharewaka o Poneke, Wellington Waterfront.

12 noon - 7.30pm - Waitangi Park Wellington Waterfront.

See council website for full programme.

Helping out Wellington

SPCA!



SPCA have 2 fundraising events in the coming weeks and need your help

Round the Bays:

If you are thinking about doing Round The Bays on 18th February - you can sign up with the SPCA and help to raise much needed funds while you run!

<https://www.wellingtonspca.org.nz/roundthebays>

SPCA Annual Street Appeal:

And they are also seeking collectors for our SPCA Annual Street Appeal in March - please get in touch if you can spare a few hours:

<https://www.wellingtonspca.org.nz/annualappeal>

JUST PATERSON - Caroline's Corner

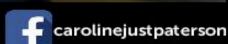
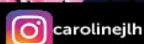
New Year New Home?

As your local agent living in Mt Victoria it's my job to know the area inside and out.

If you want to know about recent sales, or you are looking for advice or tips on improving the value of your home, or would like a free market appraisal, please don't hesitate to get in touch - I am always happy to help.



Caroline Collison
027 566 1666
caroline@justpaterson.co.nz
Living and Selling
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Here are the sales for the last three months of 2017 ... interesting there were 28 sales in Mt Victoria last year compared to 69 sales in 2016.

RECENT SALES STATISTICS FROM REINZ

Hawker Street	\$2,200,000
Earls Terrace	\$1,365,000
Porritt Ave	\$1,330,000
McIntyre Avenue	\$1,250,000
Majoribanks Street	\$1,240,000
Stafford Street	\$900,000
Queen Street	\$875,000

Innermost Gardens

At Innermost we have had some good food crops out of the gardens this summer, and are now starting to plan developments for the year.

We will continue to re-build the common garden beds on the north side of the hall, and have just ordered a large amount of natives to plant to the south of the hall in June when the ground becomes softer.

For the new garden beds, we're always on the lookout for decent lengths of non-treated timber and old bricks and both of these projects require people-power. After the successful corporate day that we hosted last year to build the children's garden area, we are looking for other work or voluntary groups to help us out with these projects. If you work for or know of a workplace that encourages staff volunteer days, or can offer any of the above materials, please get in touch with us: innermostgardens@gmail.com

Aotearoa Bike Challenge!

This is about which workplaces can get the most people to ride a bike for just 10 minutes or more. Join the Challenge & log your rides in February.

Register: <https://www.lovetoride.net>

Go by Bike Day - 7th February

Celebrate riding to work! This is an annual breakfast salute to bicycle commuters, come along for a free bagel and a coffee.

When: Wed 7th February 2018 7-9am

Where: Queens Wharf.

or check out <http://bikethere.org.nz> for biking activities around Wellington.

Classes And Groups

Wellington Central Grey Power.

www.greypowerwellington.org.nz

You can sign up by email greypowerwellington@gmail.com OR phone 471 114 Caroline Hubbard

Over the Rainbow Dance Classes

Plimmer House Innermost Gardens Creative Ballet, Jazz & Preschool classes. Affordable & quality classes.

www.overtherainbow.dance

Feldenkrais – Monday (School term)

Clyde Quay School at 6pm. Call Sue 027 466 7123 – Starting Feb 12th

PikoPiko Clyde Quay Kindergarten

Mon-Fri 8.45-2.45pm, @ Elizabeth & Brougham. Offers 20 hours ECE.

04.385.0441 or

www.wmkindergartens.org.nz

Tai Chi - Friday Mornings at the Irish Society, 10 Fifeshire Avenue. 10am

Transition Towns Mt Victoria - The February meeting for 2017 will be on Tuesday 13 February beginning 7:30pm, at [24e Elizabeth St.](http://24e-elizabeth-st.com) We will look further into the impacts of climate change - season 2. All welcome. For more information contact Frank Cook at 027-649-6508

Crossways Community Crèche

- Mon-Fri 8:30-1:15pm, 61 Majoribanks St. Parent-run early learning centre. Contact 04.384.8201 or email enrolments@crosswayscreche.org.nz

Peak Players Table Tennis

– Mon 9.30-12pm; Wed 1.30-4pm. Constable St. end of Alexandra Rd. \$4
Diana Winn winnich@xtra.co.nz or 801-9556. Seniors especially welcome.

Ukes & Roses

Uke Cafe, Empathy Cafe, Death Cafe, Meditation Cafe, Soul Cafe are coming to the Mt Vic Hub. Please check the Mt Vic Hub website under 'Find A Group' for listings and details. Enquiries to Sophia Ph/Text 027 345 2010 Email: sophiatara8@gmail.com
www.sophiatara.com