

05 December 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Amy Dawson and I am writing this letter to support the application for a memorial bench to be erected along the Milford/Takapuna Beach walkway in memory of my dad Brian Osborne.

For as long as I can remember my dad loved the beach and the sea. We have always lived on Auckland's North Shore close to the beach and often with a view of the Hauraki Gulf and Rangitoto Island. As children growing up we all have fond memories of spending a lot of time out on the Hauraki fishing, swimming and boating.

My dad was diagnosed with cancer just over two years ago and until the last few months of his life when he became too unwell, he would walk almost every day along the beach. I think he found some peace being near the water during a time that was extremely challenging and difficult for him and his whole family.

My dad lost his battle with cancer in June of this year. He asked that we did not place a plaque in a cemetery, but for those of us left behind it has been hard not to have a place to go, to be with him, to remember and to feel some peace. I know a bench would mean a lot to him as it would to us and it will be a place that for years to come we can visit and enjoy.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our application.

Kind regards,

Amy Dawson

-----Original Message-----

From: Shelley Duncan <shelleyomalley@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, 2 December 2018 8:15 PM

To: Jan Gopperth <jan@gopperth.nz>

Subject: Memories for Beanie

Brian Osborne (Gran Beanie) absolutely loved the beach especially Milford and Takapuna as they were easy walking distance to his home. He used to take us on amazing walks along the rock wall and the beach and he showed us how to look under the rocks in the rock pools to see what we could find.

I remember specifically one day the tide was coming in and we were walking along the narrowest part of the wall and we all had to dodge the waves so we didn't get soaked. We managed to miss a few but unfortunately we did get wet as we couldn't run very fast with our little legs. Our Gran Beanie would always take us for swims down at Thorne Bay when we stayed as well and we would always have the best of times. He was always busy at the beach, swimming or throwing a ball to us. (Libbi 14 years - granddaughter)

I remember his love of being by the beach and our trips to the park in Milford and our walks along the beach wall. Gran Beanie would always tell us stories along the way. We would always stop and sit on the giant's chair where we would have a snack that he had in his jacket ready for us. He bought us the book about the giant's chair and used to read the story to us. He told us about the man who built the castle for his wife and also the rock swimming pool, and the giant's chair for his neighbour. When we reached the boat ramp he would always buy us an ice cream for our walk home, he loved ice creams from the Beach cafe. - (Jakob 16 years - grandson)

We had so many Christmases at Milford reserve playing cricket and other games with our friends and family and Gran Beanie always started the games off. These were some of our best Christmases. One of my most special, last memories with Beanie was when he was finding it hard to walk with the pain in his feet but he was still determined to go out for his daily walk. We walked along the sand at Takapuna beach and the tide was coming in. He was such a trooper right until the end. The rocky bits were slippery and we all got wet and covered in sand but the smile on his face was priceless when we all made it to the end.

To have a seat where we could go and reflect and remember all of the fun times and amazing memories would be very special to us and there couldn't be a more deserving person to have one in his name. (Shelley Duncan - daughter-in-law).

From: Jan Dobbie <jandobbie@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 3 December 2018 8:39 PM

To: Jan Gopperth <jan@gopperth.nz>

Subject: Brian's memorial seat

I am writing in support of a seat being erected in memory of our friend Brian Osborne, who passed away in June of this year after a long battle with cancer.

Brian was a true-blue lover of Takapuna. He fully supported his local community, and he and his partner Jan Gopperth were instrumental in retaining the Holiday Park, battling long and hard on behalf of the local community and of course for those much further afield to retain this iconic piece of Takapuna. He loved to walk from Takapuna to Milford and was a well-known and well liked regular along the walkway. As he got sicker he would often stop at the various seats along the way to rest and enjoy the view.

Brian was also a regular correspondent to the North Shore Times on matters regarding Takapuna. He felt strongly about retaining the character and unique identity of this beautiful spot.

Jan and the family would like to donate a bench seat along the walkway in memory of Brian, as a place for the family to go and remember him but also as a resting place for those walkers in our community who are elderly or unwell and who need a place to rest, recover, and enjoy the beautiful views out over the Hauraki Gulf. We would ask that you look favourably upon this generous offer.

Regards

Jan & Denis Dobbie

021 905 456



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www.savetakapunabeachholidaypark.kiwi.nz



5 December 2018

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to endorse the application from the Osborne / Gopperth family for a memorial seat on the Takapuna / Milford Coastal Walk.

I consider their proposed tribute to the late Brian Osborne extremely fitting. Brian was not only a Takapuna resident, but one who staunchly loved the area and its heritage.

His support of the Save Takapuna Beach Holiday Park campaign was tireless. Obviously Jan Gopperth's and my name are more publicly known with this campaign, but that is only because we are the spokespeople. This campaign has been much, much larger than just us. Brian was one of those people who worked tirelessly for hundreds of hours campaigning, delivering pamphlets, setting up stalls, helping with submissions, petitions and polls ... you name it, he'd do it all because of his love for the area, its people, heritage and future.

It is extremely sad that he did not see this campaign right to its end, but he sure helped in many ways to ensure that we succeeded. He even continued his hard work for our community after he found out that he was ill.

That is a true champion of the people and something that should be lauded.

I would appreciate it very much if you would endorse the family's application, as another resting spot on this beautiful coastal path for locals and visitors alike to enjoy, would be a fitting tribute to a man that gave his all to save Takapuna's "Jewel in the Crown" for locals and visitors alike to enjoy, for generations to come.

Please feel free to contact me on 020 4064 1246, if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely
Gavin Sheehan
Save Takapuna Beach Holiday Park
Campaign Coordinator

SAVE TAKAPUNA PUBLIC HOLIDAY PARK AND PRESERVE THE RESERVE.