

Heather Grainger,
PO Box 981,
Devonport 7310

Devonport City Council General Manager,
Devonport City Council.
Devonport 7310
24/07/2022

Dear Mr Atkins,

I am writing to voice my deepest concerns for the future of the breeding pair of goshawks in Stoney Rise Road, and the bush that surrounds them, 57 Stony Rise Road, as well as the bush belonging to Devonfield.

I am very proud to say that my father was David Richmond. Throughout his life he was an advocate for the natural environment surrounding Devonport. He had VISION for the future. Throughout my early years, he always seemed to be writing letters to the Devonport Council, TRYING to get the councillors to see what Devonport had to offer in regards to the natural environment surrounding it. In the 1950's to 1960's he was writing to the council to get them to protect the bush and it's inhabitants on Kelsey Tiers. This is now an *extremely precious* asset for Devonport, for the flora, fauna and for emotional and recreational human activities.

My father battled with the Devonport Council over creating a Botanical Garden within Devonport for the use and benefit of her people. He wanted the land between Sorell, Oldaker, Best & Percy Streets to be protected as this contained a beautiful fern gully. No, it was developed. Then, he pushed for protection of the land where Kmart & Woolworths is now situated, for the development of a Botanical Garden. This area contained a natural creek, was close to the CBD and would have been a perfect setting for a Botanical Garden, for recreational use of Devonport's citizens. But no, the Devonport Council planners could only see development instead of beauty, and the site was developed.

Then, my father decided to develop something himself, and the Tasmanian Arboretum was born. Initially, the council did not wish to be involvedthe site was "too far away from Devonport" he told me was their reply. What an asset the Arboretum is to Devonport, her people, Tasmania and Globally. Visitors come from around the world to see it. What foresight my father had!

So it GRIEVES me enormously, that I am having to write to the Devonport City Planners AGAIN, after 50 – 60 years of my father trying to protect Kelcey Tiers, in order to protect MORE bush in this area containing some very precious wildlife. Particularly when there is so much Global talk of changes in the climate, species extinctions and local extinctions due to habitat destruction.

Devonport has the amazing fortune to have two rare Grey goshawks with a VERY active nest, right on her doorstep. SO close to civilisation. **How precious is that!** NO money could buy something so precious. Burrowing crayfish as well as many other special birds, animals and plants. (Can Burnie lay claim to that??). These are NATURAL ASSETS that NEED PROTECTING, for my 8 year old grandson and other children of Devonport, to grow up with, enjoy, and to learn how to care for our precious wildlife, just as I have had the privilege of growing up with Kelcey Tier as Devonport's backdrop. Something I have always felt proud of. Once these areas have been developed and gone they will NEVER return and Devonport's future generations will be the poorer for it.

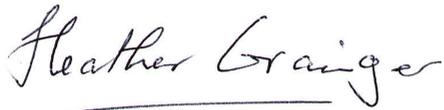
In Scotland, much is made of the Osprey and their nest sites. People PAY to visit and view the nesting Ospreys via nest cams and Binoculars from a distance that doesn't disturb the nesting birds. Devonport already has an active Sea Eagle nest at Ambleside, why can't the Planning committee look *past* financial gain and treat the Grey Goshawks and their nest as an extremely PRECIOUS asset. I am sure the Devonport City Council planners would like to be remembered by future generations for their concern and appreciation and care of the natural surrounds of Devonport along with protection of her wildlife, AS WELL AS for the emotional, mental wellbeing of her citizens. There are many citizens who are becoming *very* stressed at the continual destruction of native vegetation without any apparent concern for nature & it's inhabitants. I speak of the *complete* destruction of the native bush beside Harvey Norman.

The Devonfield bush is also a very important asset to the city of Devonport. It has a **very** important function as a Wildlife/ bird corridor from the Mersey River to the Kelsey Tier greenbelt. It is home to many wildlife. This should be kept intact as it's function is **far more** important to the aesthetic environment of Devonport than houses.

When tourists arrive in Devonport via Spirit of Tasmania or plane, they are greeted with the beautiful sight of Devonport with the greenbelt of Devonfield/Kelsey Tier immediately behind and the magnificent Mt Roland beyond. I feel sure that many think to themselves how fortunate Devonport citizens are to have a Council who encourages protection of the natural environment....OR, in the future, due to poor vision and planning, future tourists will only see houses and roofs?, and Devonport will have become like other cities....very uninteresting, concrete and false.

I URGE you to plan to PROTECT what is left of the native bush behind Devonport. When viewed from the air, there isn't really very much of it left, and once it has been cleared and developed, it will NEVER, EVER return, and all the precious wildlife it contains will go with it & Devonport will be a very miserable place to live.

Thank you for your time to read this letter,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather Grainger". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Heather Grainger (nee Richmond)

ADDIT. I am speaking from experience re the Goshawks.

Many years ago I owned bush at Lower Barrington. We had our own resident Grey Goshawk, which we saw every day.

Our neighbour on our southern boarder decided to clearfell his bush and the goshawk left and was never seen again once there was human activity in the area.

Heather Grainger

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Grainger', with a horizontal line underneath the name.