

# LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

As the establishment of a new Auckland Council draws nearer, Papakura District Council is working to complete major projects that will see the District well set up for the move to the new council structure.

Through the coming year, District News will keep the community updated on these projects and provide information about the coming change. Major projects currently under way or about to begin are:

## NEW LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Work to create a new Library and Museum on the third floor of the Accent Point building in the centre of Papakura has begun. This project will bring our Library and Museum to street level, significantly improving access from Great South Road.

The upgrade and move to street level will make the most of a great location in the heart of the town centre and close to public transport and create an appealing, safe and accessible community facility.

The new Library and Museum will open in October 2010.

The Library and Museum will both be open for their normal hours and will provide their full range of services.



Above and below: Concept images - interior views of Library and Museum



During construction, access into the building is as follows:

- from Great South Road, use the safe walkway through the construction area to access the top floor by using the main lifts, or to go down to level one and two car parks
- from level one car park you can access the top floor by using the main lifts or by using the East Street lift or stairs. Note there is no access to level two or three from the East Street lifts and stairs
- from level two car park you can use the main lifts only to access the third floor to exit to Great South Road or go to the top floor to access the Library, Museum and toilets
- there is no access to the third floor toilets, which are being upgraded as part of the project
- Toilets on the top floor remain open to the public until construction is complete.

## MASSEY PARK

Work is under way on a major upgrade for facilities at Massey Park. Included in this project is a make-over for the main grandstand, landscaping, earthworks, new off-street car parking and replacement of the main grass playing surface.

The new "sand carpet" playing surface requires the removal of the existing central grassed area, installation of new irrigation systems, underground drainage and a sand layer through which new grass is sown.

## MASSEY PARK AQUATIC CENTRE

Work at the pools will include a general upgrade to create an attractive and accessible frontage with a welcoming entry area, improved visibility and linkages with the Massey Park sports grounds.

The upgrade will include modern indoor pool surroundings and will provide an enhanced, modern and safe swim experience. This will include new tiling, fencing, painting, car parking, new fixtures, ventilation and plant equipment.

## HAWKINS THEATRE

At the Hawkins Theatre, a planned upgrade will improve performance facilities and cladding surfaces. The project will include building a "Green Room", by converting the back stage property

storage area on the mezzanine level into a larger room that can be used as changing facilities for large productions.

It will also establish a ticketing office by converting the Theatre's chair store.

## ART GALLERY

Work is under way to upgrade the exhibition spaces in the gallery, install new air conditioning and improve flow between the two gallery spaces.

The Gallery work is well under way, with much of the interior now gutted ready for reconstruction. Staff have set up a "weblog" accessible from [www.papakuraarts.co.nz](http://www.papakuraarts.co.nz) which updates the community on progress in this exciting upgrade.

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Papakura is looking great. Heading into the business part of the year we look back on a peaceful and enjoyable festive season, some excellent events in Bikewise Month and the start of our summer concert series, and there's more to come.

So many major projects are under way or about to start that will really set the scene for the next few decades. Our Library and Museum are being brought down to street level, improving access from Great South Road. Massey Park is being upgraded in a project that will make it a wonderful venue for community and regional sport. Our Art Gallery and Hawkins Theatre are being given essential upgrades.

Out in the community, as always, Papakura people are showing they care for each other and are getting involved in the issues that affect them.

For this I commend you all. As long as you care, as long as you get involved, the spirit of Papakura is sustained.

In a matter of months through the local body election process Papakura becomes part of a new Auckland Council. As a community we will need to be thinking carefully about who will represent us and what we expect in the way of services from the new Council – and how we will make sure our elected representatives at local board and Ward level truly work for us.

Calum Penrose  
 Mayor  
 Telephone 295 1375  
 Mobile 027 217 0760

## Sounds at Sunset

More than 300 people turned out on Sunday 22 February to enjoy Papakura's first Sounds at Sunset concert of 2010.

The three-concert series is held this year at Central Park and was kicked off in fine style by popular French-influenced group French Toast, who were followed by the jazz and swing sounds of the Queen City Big Band (below), who blended classic big band tunes with more modern styles and even marked the presence of Welsh icon Tom Jones in Auckland.

The next Sounds at Sunset concert is *Blues with a Twist* this Sunday March 7, starting at 5.30 pm and featuring the acoustic blues and Kiwi pop of Hammond Gamble followed by Irish band Twisty Willow.



## Porchester Road Closure

The section of Porchester Road between Walters Road and Airfield Road will be closed to through traffic for up to 12 weeks as part of a major upgrade for the road.

Contractors working for Papakura District Council on Porchester Road are excavating and replacing the road surface. In order to complete the work during the warmer summer months, the road will be closed to through traffic from 3 March with a target to re-open with all work completed in mid-late May (weather permitting). The closure will trim up to four weeks off the duration of the work.

## Mangrove Removal

Mangroves will be removed from Pahurehure Inlet over coming weeks in an official trial programme by Papakura District Council.

The removal programme has been approved by the Auckland Regional Council and is supported by Te Roopu Kaitiaki o Papakura and the Pahurehure Inlet Protection Society.

Mangroves will be removed by Council contractors in three areas of the inlet: off Youngs Reserve, near the esplanade reserve at the end of Westholm Way and near the motorway and culvert at Rushgreen Avenue.

Papakura District Council community assets manager Nicola Terry says the work will involve scrub-cutting machinery and a helicopter will be used to lift cut mangroves and remove them for chipping.

"For this reason, we are advising people to stay well away from the work areas and to observe all safety signs and any safety-related requests made by staff working in the area. In particular, please do not cross safety barriers or enter the land or mudflat work areas," she said.

Ms Terry says there will be restricted public access to Youngs Reserve during working hours.

Advisory signs will be set up at each work site before work begins.

A monitoring programme has been carried out to record water quality, sediment and the range of organisms living in the inlet. Monitoring will continue during the removal programme.

The trial removal area covers three hectares; additional removal programmes are planned for the future.

## Work Programme Update

### ROADING WORK

#### Completed in January and February

- Safety improvements at the Spartan/ Great South Road intersection to prohibit right turns out of Spartan Road
- Construction of a retaining wall and guard rail on Hingaia Road
- Rehabilitation of Hingaia Road – Oakland Road Intersection
- Reconstruction of Settlement Road from the Marne Road
- 0.8 kilometres of hot mix and 10.0 km of chip seal resurfacing
- 0.5 km of footpath repairs.

#### Currently under way

- Porchester Road improvement stage 1 from Walters Road for 600m to the north
- Rehabilitation of Hunua Road from the Dominion Road intersection
- Improvements to Kaipara Road – Ohiwa Road

- Improvement of the existing stormwater drainage on Princess Street and Station Road in Takanini
- Footpath renewal works for the northern section of the Papakura District.

#### Programmed for March and April

- Temporary footpath construction works on Great South Road and Porchester Road
- 0.7 km of hot mix and 10.0 km of chip seal resurfacing
- 0.5 km of footpath repairs.

### PARKS AND RECREATION WORK

#### Completed in January and February

- Temporary repairs to Massey Park Aquatic Centre outdoor learner pool
- Removal of East House, Carisbrook Reserve
- Park Check survey of park users
- Reinstatement of Reding Reserve
- Interior painting Elizabeth Campbell Hall and Alfriston Hall
- Bottletop Bay toilet water tank replacement

- Mansell Field improvements to support athletics and rugby activities during Massey Park construction
- Papakura Cemetery gates refurbishment.

#### Currently under way

- Hawkins Theatre redevelopment
- Art Gallery redevelopment
- Mangrove removal – 3 x 1ha trial plots
- Construction of 'sand carpet' playing surface at Massey Park
- Central Park extension to Wood Street
- Auckland Regional Council consent for Youngs Reserve Boat Ramp Stage 2
- Sports fields renovations
- Red Cross House demolition and reinstatement
- Pukekiwiriki Pa (Tanah Merah Drive) weed removal.

#### Programmed for April and May

- Waimana Older Person's Housing refurbishment
- Car park renewals – Keri Downs and Alfriston Hall
- Pukekiwiriki Pa (Tanah Merah Drive) planting.