

Papakura District News

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

WELCOME

This is the final edition of District News for 2008 and the first to be produced as part of the Papakura Courier.

It's been a busy year full of highlights for Papakura, and the holiday season is now upon us. We have the annual Papakura Christmas weekend to look forward to – three free family fun events to mark the start of the festive period.

I took on my role as Mayor to help make Papakura even better and I have been constantly amazed by how busy this role is.

Every time I speak to a resident or group I am reminded of what a fantastic place we live in, and the strong sense of community that makes us so unique in the greater Auckland region.

This sense of "one-ness" was at the heart of our community's response to the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance earlier this year, and it drives so much of the work happening here in Papakura to address social issues that affect the community.

Wherever possible, we celebrate those who work hard to make a difference in our people's lives. The Council's annual volunteer awards recognise the work of



CALUM PENROSE Mayor of Papakura

people who strive to make the district better for all the community. It's great to hear of so many people doing so much to help the people of the district.

Right now, a team of locals are representing us at the 2008 Top Town competition in Christchurch – they really sum up so much of what makes us proud to say we are from Papakura.

Above all, I want the people of the District to know I am always happy to meet and speak with them – on the street, or here at Council. My door is always open. I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Calum Penrose,
Mayor of Papakura
Telephone 295 1375

WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

PARKS AND RECREATION WORK

Completed October/November:

- Removal of exotic self-seeded trees on Pukekiwiriki Pa
- Massey Park Aquatic Centre outdoor pool repairs
- Street tree planting on Walter Strevens Drive
- Sports field renovations
- Art Gallery renovations
- Kirks' Bush track renewals

In progress:

- Upgrades at Don Street Housing for the Elderly
- Amenity block renewals
- Massey Park Athletics Track repairs
- Control of Liquor in Public Places Signage
- Ron Keat toilets upgrade

Programmed for December/January

- Hawkins Centre renewals
- Elizabeth Campbell Centre renewals
- Planning for playground renewals – Ray Small Park, Tironui Reserve, Drury Domain, Challen Reserve

- Smiths Reserve clubrooms upgrade
- Planning for toilet upgrade at Drury Domain
- Planning for the removal of houses on Marybeth Reserve
- Planning for erosion mitigation work on esplanade adjacent to Tytus Place
- Replacement of air flow turbine at Massey Park Aquatic Centre

ROADING WORK

Completed October/November:

- Construction of new footpath (450m) on Boundary and Spartan Roads
- Footpath renewals at various roads – 450 metres
- Hot mix work at Ariki Place (cul-de-sac "turning head"), Crestlands Place (cul-de-sac head), Inca Place (cul-de-sac head), Orion Street (at the bend) and Waiari Road (two cul-de-sac heads)
- Hot mix surfacing at Great South Road and other various roads
- Traffic Islands on Great South Road and various other Traffic Safety projects

EVENTS CHRISTMAS

A time for family fun, togetherness and goodwill.

Christmas and the holiday season bring us closer together with friends and family. It is a time where thoughts turn to those we love and to the community we are part of.

Every year, Papakura celebrates the season with its own Christmas events.

Our popular free family fun weekend will once more kick off the festive season, running through the first weekend in December with Carols in the Park on Friday night at Bruce Pulman Park from 6.00 pm; the annual Christmas Parade through the Town Centre on Saturday from 1.30 pm and the free Christmas Movie in the Park happening that evening at Bruce Pulman Park from 8.00 pm.

Carols in the Park and the Movie are both in Bruce Pulman Park this year.

As always, the Carols evening will feature the Christmas classics, with a song sheet available to enable families to sing along. Enjoy performances from local children, songs from Sara Jane Auva'a, and a massed children's choir.

The song sheet will be handed out free on the night, and can be downloaded from the Council web site, www.papakura.govt.nz



This year's free family movie will be a recent children's favourite, Ratatouille – the story of Remy, a rat with an advanced appreciation of fine cuisine and aspirations to become something more than other members of his alley-dwelling family. From the acclaimed Pixar studio, Ratatouille is sure to entertain and is rated PG.

Between Friday's carols and Saturday evening's movie, Papakura will once more host what many say is the best Christmas parade in the whole of south Auckland. From an assembly point in Opaheke Road alongside Central Park, the parade will travel down Great South Road to Broadway, then head east to Railway Street West, then along Wood Street to rejoin Great South Road. Confirmed for the parade are 33 entries including bands, marching girls, belly dancers, Harley Davidson bikes and Christmas floats built by a wide range of local groups and organisations.

The Papakura Top Town team will also put in an appearance. And of course the parade would not be complete without the Man in Red – Santa will be the highlight of our Christmas Parade as always!

HOLIDAYS

Rubbish collection details for the holiday break along with Christmas hours for the Papakura District Council, Sir Edmund Hillary Library and Massey Park Aquatic Centre are now on the Papakura web site, www.papakura.govt.nz and will be published in the Papakura Courier.

- Temporary Slip repairs on Ponga Road
- Remedial seal repairs on Boundary, Hunua and Clevedon Roads
- Cleaning and sealing of pavers in town centre

In progress:

- Pre-seal repairs at various roads before reseals

Programmed for December/January

- Footpath renewals at various roads – 400 metres
- Construction of new footpath (125m) on Norrie Road
- Replace 3 Bus Shelters on Great South Road - north of Don Street, north of Norrie Road and north of Park Estate Road
- Permanent slip repairs on Hunua, Ponga, and Ardmore Quarry and Coalmine Roads
- Chip seal resurfacing works on various roads
- Wood Street stormwater upgrades
- Area wide pavement treatment works on Oakland Road (Hingaia Road to Hayfield Way- 480m)

- Area wide pavement treatment works on Porchester Road (north of Manuroa to Popes Road- 300m)
- Railway Street West-Streetscape upgrade works

STORMWATER WORK

Completed October/November:

- Ongoing repairs to pipes and structures by maintenance contractor.
- Start of undersized pipe replacement in Wood St from East St intersection to past Duke St. Contract works scheduled to be complete prior to Christmas.

Programmed for December/January and February

- Railway Street West and Wood St upgrades - tenders awarded.
- Tironui open drain alongside railway-vegetation control and preparation for replanting.
- Manuroa Rd undersized pipe replacement.
- Chichester Drive additional pipe under motorway – subject to timing of NZ Transport Authority agreements.



THE TOWN CENTRE

Making progress

The multi-million dollar enhancement of the Papakura Town Centre has transformed the area into a place where people feel encouraged to meet, shop and socialise.

Broadway, O'Shannessey Street, Averill Street, Elliot Street, Queen Street (to East Street) and most of Great South Road now feature high quality roading and stormwater infrastructure as well as an enhanced streetscape (footpaths, street furniture, street lights and street trees). The town square and the village green have both received major make-overs.

Only one major area still awaits enhancement: Railway Street West, and the streets that connect it with the rest of the Town Centre.

In early 2009, work will begin on this area. No roading or streetscape work will be carried out in the busy period leading up to Christmas. Two public meetings have been held and details of the project made available to all those who live or work in the area.

Upgrades to the stormwater system will be done, then road works will target areas in greatest need of renewal. In Great South Road, renewal and resurfacing work will cover the southern end of the town centre taking in the Wood Street roundabout. Wood Street's road surface will be upgraded between Great

South Road and Railway Street West; and Railway Street West from the intersection with Wood Street will also be upgraded.

The existing pedestrian crossing in Railway Street West will be improved in its current location. The "signature" petal-style light poles used elsewhere in the town centre will also be used at the Railway Street West pedestrian crossing.

No traffic signals are proposed but all intersections in the area will feature safer designs with pedestrian refuges.

The area's footpaths will be paved in the same blocks used throughout the town centre; new street trees, rubbish bins and lights will create a consistent theme throughout the town centre.

Freestanding verandahs over the footpaths will provide shelter. The verandahs recognise the importance of Railway Street West for people needing to use buses, taxis or the railway station. Seating will be provided at the taxi and bus waiting areas.

"Gateway markers" will be installed at the Clevedon Road overbridge and on Great South Road between Wood Street and Wellington Street.



ARTIST'S CONCEPT Railway Street West

Get a Snug Home

There are 150 more Snug Homes in Papakura this year, and the programme aims to fit insulation to a further 250 in 2009.



Homes built before 1 January 2000 are eligible, where the occupants qualify for a Community Services Card.

The Snug Homes programme helps people with cold, damp houses, especially where children or elderly people are living or where there is an existing health condition. Papakura District Council is one of the funding agencies

for the programme, and Counties Manukau District Health Board is also offering free health checks as part of Snug Homes.

Application forms are available from Papakura District Council at 35 Coles Crescent; by phoning 477 0270 or visiting the website www.ecoinsulation.co.nz



MEMBERS OF THE TOP TOWN TEAM hang out with the local children in Central Park

OUR DISTRICT

Papakura, your Top Town

The Papakura Troopers Top Town team is this week representing the district in the 2008 version of the classic inter-town games.

The event is being held in Christchurch, with the final rounds scheduled for tomorrow, December 4.

In just a few short weeks, the team has been brought together, and a full complement of sponsors have got behind the team. HEB are the naming rights sponsor, and McEntee Hire, Mitre 10 Mega, the Papakura Club and Papakura New World have signed on as associate sponsors.

Win, lose or draw, the team and the community can be rightly proud of being selected to take part and sponsors and Papakura residents can be sure the team will represent us in true Papakura style.

The team is: Maki Brown, Trent Iuli, Tracy Littin, Leah Pearsall, Ray Parker, Mere Rangihuna, Wayne Rangihuna, Amber Stobie, Carlaus Te Kawa, Karen Teague, Lance Watene, Aaron Wilkinson.

A new reserve for Rosehill

Papakura District Council is in the early stages of enlarging and developing Marybeth Reserve in Rosehill.

Papakura District Council's Director of Community Services, Stella Ford, says the Council's Open Space Strategy 2003 and community consultation during the 2006-2016 Long-Term Council Community Plan, Progress Papakura identified that the Rosehill area has very little reserve land available for the community to use and enjoy.

As the area is largely built up, the only way to provide more reserve land is to buy houses for removal which Council has been doing since 2006. Four houses will be moved from the area in February 2009 and the ground will be levelled and grassed.

The next step for the project will be to seek the views of local residents as a

guide to how the park should be developed and what it should feature. From this consultation a reserve management plan will be developed. Residents and park users will then have a further chance to comment on the plan itself before any design work starts.

More information about this exciting project is available from Papakura District Council's Nicola Terry on 295 2320 or Stella Ford on 295 1373.



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