

## IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

### Soccer team seeks uniform

A local youth soccer team needs a team uniform for the 2015 season. The Ethiopian Auckland youth team consists of fifteen 12-26 year-old males from New Windsor, Mt Roskill and Owairaka and train twice a week at Alan Wood Reserve. They're currently competing in an eight week tournament wearing their own personal jerseys. Yet despite their material disadvantage, it has not affected their on-field play with the team winning their opening two games. Can you help them out? Contact Sammy Negash on 021 195 4511.

### Don't run, smile and wave

Our drivers have reported that children like to run next to our water sprinkler trucks. While our drivers appreciate their enthusiasm this is a very dangerous situation that is likely to cause an accident. Parents please remind your child(ren) not to run alongside our trucks or other heavy vehicles. Also let them know that the best way to express their enthusiasm to our drivers is to simply smile and wave as they go past.

### Come and visit us today

Waterview Kindergarten still has places available for young minds between the ages of 3-5 years. They offer quality education that empowers children to learn and grow in a safe and stimulating environment. Their facilities include a large and inviting outdoor area promoting active movement and development. Call 09 828 1467 to talk to one of their friendly staff at 17 Oakley Ave, Waterview.

### Be careful when crossing the road

Waterview Primary School would like to advise all parents and pupils to be careful when crossing the road at Great North Road and Oakley Ave. At Great North Road, they recommend walking to the traffic lights opposite Alford Ave before crossing to the dairy. Also take extra care when crossing the road at Oakley Ave as it's particularly busy both before and after school.

\*This month Project Update begins a new monthly series of interviewing a person from the neighbourhoods of the project about their experience of living in the area.



MEET ALEX BARTLETT

**Age:** 85 years

**Resides:** Alford Street, Waterview

**Occupation:** Retired

**Family:** Married, two children.

#### How long have you lived in Waterview?

85 years. I grew up here with my mother, father and two sisters. During the Great Depression my father's uncle gave him this section of land. My parents used it to run a poultry farm for eggs as well as supply vegetables to their neighbours.

#### So you've seen plenty of change around here?

Yes I have [laughs]. A long time ago Waterview was considered the Auckland countryside. Believe it or not but my friends and I would play cricket on Great North Road. If we saw a car approaching we would scurry off to the side of the road before resuming the game when it was clear.

#### Can you share any other childhood memories from living in Waterview?

Before SH16 was built my sisters and I would regularly sail our dinghy from Waterview across to Te Atatu or Pollen Island to go swimming. Also the area around Waterbank Cres and



Alex and his sister sailing in the Waterview harbour.

Herdman Street was once a dairy farm where many of the local kids would play after school or on the weekends.

#### Does your family still live in the area?

No, only one of my sisters' is alive and she decided to move to Glenfield, North Shore over 60 years ago before the Harbour Bridge was built.

#### What do you enjoy most about living in Waterview?

It's a convenient place to live which is close to the motorway and the CBD. I also enjoy sailing and can be on the water at Half Moon Bay within 30 minutes after leaving my doorstep.

#### Have you ever considered moving away from the area?

No, not after I got married and we built our house. With the help of my father, brother in-law and his father we managed to build my house brick by brick.

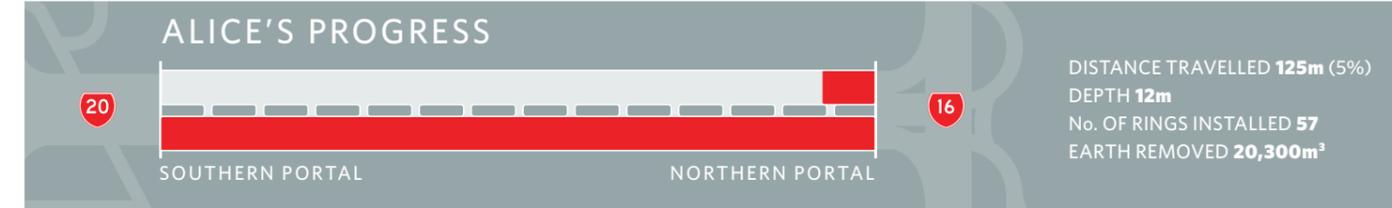
#### What do you think about the Waterview project?

I think it's very good for Auckland. It's great that they are aiming to leave behind better places and spaces for local communities. The new skate parks, open spaces and fields will see more people enjoy their local recreational facilities.

#### You think they could make some improvements with the new plans for Waterview or have they got things close to perfect?

I have one improvement. That would be to extend the walkway (Waterview Reserve to Howlett Park) to stretch right around to Heron Park. It would create a bigger circuit for people to walk their dog or go for a jog.

# PROJECT UPDATE



## Southern Ventilation Building works heat up

### Sublevel two next 'big milestone'

Work on the Southern Ventilation Building (SVB) is heating up – literally – with many of our people on site feeling the summer heat while working in the three suspended floors of the building.

"It's definitely hot and with little wind down there it can make it extra warm," says Project Site Engineer, Ben Scott.

While the heat has made it uncomfortable for our team working at the SVB, it has not slowed their progress on completing the 80m long, 30m wide structure.

"We're making good headway and over the next month we'll be installing more precast cladding panels and completing the shear walls which support the three suspended floors."

"Work on the structural steel of sublevel one began during later January," he adds.

Ground level, sublevel one (level below) and sublevel two (next level below) make up the three suspended floors of the building and will house the services and ventilation systems for the tunnels at the southern end.

The team's next 'big milestone' is completing sublevel two which will have a roof laid on top of the southbound carriageway.

Its completion will temporarily free up more room for both the SVB and tunnel teams that have been working within a confined space at the Southern Approach Trench (SAT).

"It allows our SVB team to isolate ourselves from the carriageway below so that we can reduce the risk of damaging the muck conveyor and let tunnel traffic flow freely," says Ben.

Construction of the ventilation stack at the southern end is expected to begin in early March.



The Southern Approach Trench including the three floors of the Southern Vent Building.



The SVB team is sharing space with the tunnels team at the SAT.

## CLOSURES AND CHANGES AROUND THE PROJECT

- › Visit [nzta.govt.nz](http://nzta.govt.nz) and search "Traffic bulletins" to stay up-to-date with upcoming planned road closures, road works and road activities concerning the Waterview Connection project.
- › The realignment of a gas pipe will take place outside of Unitec near the Great North Road off-ramp. This work will close a small section of the Northwestern Cycleway for a month beginning in mid-February. The cycleway will be realigned so patrons will still be able

to use the path.

- › Ernie Pinches footbridge extension is almost complete; the team have some small but complex work to undertake over the next few weeks. The footbridge will re-open mid to late February. Look out for signage with the opening date.
- › The Howlett Reserve and its adjoining access way will be closed from early February. The cutting of standing dead wood and removal of vegetation is required

in the area for landscaping and other remedial work. It will remain closed until the completion of the new 700m path that connects Howlett to Waterview reserve.

- › Further out west, as part of the Causeway Upgrade Project, the two left-hand lanes between Te Atatu and Rosebank Roads city bound will be moved to the new section of road built on the harbour or northern side of the Northwestern motorway. The third lane will stay where it is.

## Cross passages installation on track

Construction of the tunnels 16 cross passages are on track to being completed by December 2015.

The cross passages – one every 150m – will house services and provide road users with access to the opposite tunnel in the case of an emergency.

Cross Passage Manager, Alistair McPhee, reports that the team working in the southbound tunnel are in good stead to hit their end of year target.

“Our cross passage team has made a solid start to 2015, completing the installation of ground support for the canopy tubes in cross passage two and three,” he says.

“During February we’ll be installing more of these tubes in cross passages 14, 15 and 16.”

The canopy tubes provide temporary ground

support for the cross passages before temporary shotcrete lining and permanent concrete is poured. The team aim to erect three lots of 12 metre canopy tubes per dayshift.

“We’ve also done a lot of investigation drilling from cross passage 2 to 16 (southern end to northern end) with one more set to be completed when the Culvert Gantry moves into the northbound tunnel,” says Alistair.

“Drilling allows us to check the ground conditions including geology and possible water inflows. This helps us understand any problems we may encounter before we excavate.”

Excavation work for the cross passages will begin in the middle of February at cross passage 3 and will require two teams to work two shifts per day.



Canopy tube installation of cross passage two using a drilling rig.

## RAMP FOUR BEAMS - BY THE NUMBERS

THE WEIGHT OF THE HEAVIEST BEAM IS **70 TONNES**

THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT ABOVE GREAT NORTH ROAD IS

**21m**

RAMP FOUR IS **15 SPANS**

THE BEAMS ARE **1.525m DEEP**

AND VARY BETWEEN

**26.5m & 35.1m LONG**

THERE ARE **8** DIFFERENT TYPES OF BEAMS



Pipes ready for concrete backfill.

## Tunnels' unique drainage system

When the Waterview Connection opens in early 2017 road users will likely be in awe of what they see when they drive through New Zealand's longest and deepest road tunnels.

Yet buried below the road is a drainage system that is worthy of its own 'oohs and ahhs'.

Earthworks Project Engineer, Bryan James, says that our design and construction team have done great work to create a unique system specific for this project.

“We’re building a drainage system that includes installing slot drains and flame traps (to stop flames traveling down the pipes) that connect to the main pipes that run the length of the tunnel. These will allow for on-going maintenance to take place despite having no manholes at the road surface.”

“It’s different to anything we would normally build,” he says.

The drainage system will convey water from the deluge system down to a low point sump which collects water before it’s pumped out of the tunnels.

The collection will be tested regularly and will also be used when the tunnels are open during an emergency.

“Work on the second stage fill of the mainline drain is moving along at a good rate with a third of the southbound tunnel installed,” says Bryan.

The mainline is expected to be finished in July 2015 before other drainage system work commences.

## Ramp four construction set to begin

The Great North Road structures team successfully completed the installation of the ramp four portal beam falsework late last month.

The falsework will temporarily support the ramp four Super T Beams as they span over the top of ramp three.

Project Engineer, Adam Stilges, says that the lift was completed with expert precision and execution.

“It was a fine effort from our team to move it carefully into place,” he says.

“The erection of this falsework means the substructure is ready for Dennis’ journey along ramp four.”

Dennis will begin placing the first of 77 super T beams in early February, with the largest and heaviest beam at 70 tonnes to be placed on this ramp.

The giant yellow gantry has a stretch target of being switched over to ramp two by Christmas 2015.

Ramp two will be the last of four ramps to be constructed and links drivers on SH 16 and SH 20 to the tunnels.



Our structures team manage the lifting of the falsework.

## Celebrating Waterview

The Waterview Summer BBQ in the Park was held on Wednesday 21 January, thanks to all that made it down.

Originally planned for December last year, the event was postponed because of the weather.

This time around there was not a hint of rain in the sky as locals pulled out their sun chairs, slapped on some sunscreen and came out to eat, play and have fun.

“Our neighbours play a very big part in the successful outcome of the project,” says Communications and Stakeholder Manager Jocelyn Shaw.

“This is our way of saying ‘thank you’ to them for their continued support.”

Davertry Street resident Sam Pilisi says the BBQ gave him an opportunity to meet our people working onsite.

“It was great to talk to some of the engineers. They gave me good insight about the project and some of the key works that are still to come,” he says.

Special thanks to the Divesh Kumar, local business owner who sponsored the bouncy castles for the children; Sika – one of the project suppliers – provided water and soft drinks; the family and friends of a worker at MWN – one of our sub-contractors; the Neighbourhood Safety Panel; and the Waterview Coffee Project.



It was a great evening out for the family.



Kids enjoy playing on the bouncy castle.



Smiles all round for these young locals.