YEAR OF THE HORSE BOLTS AWAY!

What a busy start to the New Year! Along with new residents moving in, the Hobsonville Point Farmers Market has relocated to the waterfront and is loving its new home. To date, over 350 homes and sections have been sold.

The Kaipatiki Project nursery has also moved home, and is now at the former Engine Testing Bay just past Bomb Point, and the Hobsonville Point Secondary School has opened.

The 'Waterford on Hobsonville Point' retirement village has its show home under construction, and the Brickworks apartments and local shops on the corner of De Havilland Road and Hobsonville Point Road are also under construction. Earthworks are underway for more homes where the Farmers Market and 'Camp Pack Up' buildings used to be. This area will be developed by Willis Bond, who will also be restoring the old airforce homes on Sunderland Avenue, and building approximately 190 new homes. They are also considering options for the future of Mill House.

Another section of Hobsonville Point Road, the main road through Hobsonville Point, has opened. This has reduced the construction traffic through Buckley Avenue. By mid next year, the new main road will be complete, and will run right down to the waterfront. The last section of the road will have a stunning Louise Purvis sculpture installed on a large retaining wall. There are other exciting artwork projects underway too.

This year will also see progress on the Coastal Linear Park, and plans for this will be on public display shortly. Another priority is the Catalina Precinct development that runs from Bomb Point to the Hobsonville Point Primary School, which has the status of a 'Special Housing Area'. This is to enable more homes to be built more quickly, and will be a significant piece of work for this year. The Sunderland Lounge and the Old Headquarters buildings are being transferred to Auckland Council for use as community facilities, so groups such as PiPi's Playgroup and Dance Pointe continue to be part of this community. Auckland Council are consulting with the community on the proposed uses for the buildings on 18 May from 2.30pm to 5pm at the Sunderland Lounge, so come along then to give your feedback.

We acknowledge the disruption you face living with the ongoing construction, we are moving at pace and aim to get it complete as soon as we can. Thank you for your support and patience.

Chris Aiken,
Chief Executive, Hobsonville Land Company.
This popular run/walk/obstacle course is back on again this year. The Hobsonville Point Runway Challenge has been run successfully for the last 3 years by Total Sport but this year will be a bit different as Total Sport have now handed the reins over to the Henderson Lions Club.

The Henderson Lions Club have been organising events of this kind for more than 53 years and the event is run entirely by volunteers. Any profits from the event can be given back to children and families in the community.

Team or individual entrants can take part in either a 3km, 5km or 10km cross country run or walk. Obstacles will be spread throughout the course to make it more interesting and lots of fun. If you decide to do the 10km, you get to have a go at all the obstacles twice. Every entrant gets a special medal and a goody bag at the conclusion of the race.

The event is taking place on Sunday 18 May 2014. Register online or on the day at 7.30am at Hobsonville Point Primary School. Make a day of it and come to Hobsonville Point for a day of family fun! Check out the website www.runwaychallenge.co.nz for more information and online entries. For further information contact Stephen or Shelley on 027 441 1495.

POTTERY MARKET OPENS

Pottery has a strong historical link to Hobsonville Point with the Clark family making pipes from clay sourced in the area. By the 1890’s, Clark’s company became the largest sanitary pipe works in the Southern Hemisphere. The Clark’s were the first of a number of potteries that established at Hobsonville.

The link to this history continues now with a pottery market once a month starting from Sunday 4 May. The pottery market can be found in the Fabric Bay beside one of Auckland’s most popular weekend markets, the Hobsonville Point Farmers Market, on the Landing, Hudson Bay Road.

Organised by Auckland potter, Heather Bell, the monthly market will feature established potters, plus student artists and new work. Works will be reasonably priced, allowing market visitors to purchase tableware, start a ceramic art collection or choose pieces for display.

Potters, ceramic artists and sculptors will operate market stalls where visitors can meet the artisans, and learn about their craft. Market-goers can try their hands at creating their own small work of art from clay too.

Organiser Heather Bell is a graduate of the Australian National University, her work has been selected for display in two Portage Ceramics Awards and she has exhibited in a number of group shows in New Zealand and Australia.

The monthly pottery market will be held from 9am to 1pm on the first Sunday of the month from May to December 2014. Phone Heather for any enquiries on 027 421 7849.

INTRODUCING THE HPRS.

The Hobsonville Point Residents Society is an incorporated society whose membership is made up of the registered owners of Hobsonville Point. The rules governing the Society, how it is set up and operates are in the Constitution. The Society is run by a committee elected at an Annual General Meeting; the current committee is: Angela Thomson, Peter Herbert, Mike Pearce, Jim McKelwain, Gavin Gunston, Chris Minto, Dave Hardegger, David Bell (Committee Chairperson) and Jane Atkin (Secretary/Treasurer).

The Committee represents all members and promotes their collective wellbeing in matters that affect community interests by facilitating conversations with the development company and those responsible for providing infrastructure, amenities and services.

The committee meets regularly to discuss issues and concerns that have arisen and work towards solutions. If you wish to raise an issue or have a suggestion for the committee please contact the Secretary Jane Atkin on 09 623 5825 or via email jane@crockers.co.nz
Hobsonville Land Company has appointed Willis Bond to develop the Sunderland Precinct. Willis Bond is a leading developer of mixed use properties in New Zealand. Projects currently underway include Clyde Quay Wharf and One Market Lane in Wellington, and the Hub-Albany in Auckland.

The Sunderland Precinct is the block of land that runs from the Catalina Café, east to the northern coast to Mill House. The area will also be home to the former Base Commanders house that will be relocated there. This home, along with the Sunderland Avenue homes and Mill House will be fully restored. When completed, the Sunderland Precinct will include approximately 190 new homes of various types, including terraced houses, standalone homes and AXIS Series affordable homes.

The first homes to come onto the market in this precinct will be the restored Sunderland Avenue properties in September this year. The first newly-built homes are expected to go on sale before the end of 2014.

For more information, visit their website on www.willisbond.co.nz, or contact Wayne Silver on 021 410 759, or Ella Spittle on 027 305 4419.

On 22 February this year Te Kawerau a Maki and the Crown signed a Deed of Settlement, which is the final settlement of all historical Treaty of Waitangi claims of Te Kawerau a Maki. The Settlement includes an agreed historical account, acknowledgements and apology, cultural redress and financial and commercial redress. This includes 2800sqm of land and a $300,000 contribution towards the establishment of a marae at Te Onekiritea, also known as Bomb Point.

The Hobsonville Land Company and Te Kawerau a Maki have been exploring options for the marae, and an important objective for Te Kawerau a Maki is to reach out to the community so locals can learn about and experience Te Kawerau a Maki’s rich culture and history.

The next part of Hobsonville Point to be developed into residential housing may just be the best-planned little corner of New Zealand.

Ponsonby firm Campbell Brown Planning has won the New Zealand Planning Institute’s supreme best practice award for its Sunderland Hobsonville Point Development Plan for the Sunderland precinct at Hobsonville Point.

The firm won both the Nancy Northcroft Supreme Best Practice Award and the Best Practice Award for Excellence in Integrated Planning. Judges said the project demonstrated outstanding creativity and innovation in an example of best practice planning for a high quality urban environment.

The Sunderland development encompasses a large area of waterfront and adjacent land on the Upper Waitemata Harbour at what was the Hobsonville air abase. The 7.4 hectare Sunderland A precinct, to be developed by Willis Bond will see the implementation of the first part of the development plan. Sunderland A will comprise terraces and lanes to stand alone homes, and renovated heritage homes, built over the next fours years. Details of the NZ Planning Institute awards can be found at www.planning.org.nz
APARTMENT LIVING FROM 2015 AT HOBSONVILLE POINT

Hobsonville Point's 60 Brickworks apartments are now under construction with only six apartments remaining for sale. The apartments are due to be completed in early 2015.

The ground floor retail space will have a medical centre and pharmacy, Japanese / sushi restaurant, convenience store and café. There is still some retail space available but Tasman Cook, who are building the apartment block and retail space, say they have strong enquiries for the remaining retail space.

For any enquiries, contact Kara at Harcourts Cooper and Co on 021 396 252.

BUCKLEY AVENUE MAKEOVER

Another section of Buckley Avenue will be getting a makeover in the coming month. The section from Neville Road to the Old Headquarters building will be closed from the end of May. This will be timed with the opening of the next section of the new Hobsonville Point Road, which will be the alternative route for vehicles and pedestrians while Buckley Avenue is closed. There will be access to the tennis courts from Hobsonville Point Road.

ART THAT EVERYONE CAN SHARE

A feature of Hobsonville Point is its growing number of artworks in public spaces throughout the community.

In such an intensely built environment, the parks, roads and walkways are an important complement to the traditional ‘back yard’. The pottery market can be found in the Fabric Bay beside one of Auckland’s most popular weekend markets, the Hobsonville Point Farmers Market, on the Landing, Hudson Bay Road.

John Reynolds’ charred poles spanning the wetland and park adjacent to the Catalina Café; Virginia King’s ‘Hinaki’ on the Ferry wharf and Nick Eagles subtle but beautiful ‘Flight Wall’ in Hobsonville Point Park are established features of the landscape. Other than Virginia’s work, they do not announce themselves as public artworks in the traditional sense; rather as gentle interventions in the landscape that add another layer of meaning to the rich tapestry of heritage that the site holds.

New work on the way includes a trio of ‘windmills’ by Leo van den Eijktel, beyond the primary school in a small wetland area. Based on the coloured, hand-held windmills beloved by all children, the placement of the work close to the school is very appropriate.

Also by the school, and on Hobsonville Point Park, artist Tiffany Singh will be working with the school pupils to create an assemblage of painted wind chimes, to be suspended on red gates or arches. She is calling the project ‘From the Ground Up’. The installation will have a life of up to five years, but may be refreshed from time to time by subsequent children coming to the school.

Further down on the new Hobsonville Point Road, graffiti knitter (or yarn bomber) Alison Milne will lead a community engagement project to ‘Dress the Tree’ – a huge heritage Pohutukawa tree. Yarn bombing is an international phenomena where perfectly law-abiding people knit and crochet and dress almost anything in the public space that takes their fancy. The project kicked off this month and will last up to twelve months, or until the tree is considered finished. Once again, this has a life dictated by wind, rain and sun. Once the work fades or begins to break down, it will come down. To get involved, email Alison on tidmilne@xtra.co.nz.

Fresh banners will go up on the development sites mid-year with work created by the new pupils at the Hobsonville Point Secondary School. This will be integrated into their course work and will give the school an opportunity to share its values with the community.

Two significant public artworks are planned for Hobsonville Point around mid-year. The very large and dominant retaining wall at the seaward end of the new Launch Road will be graced by a sinuous and lovely work by artist Louise Purvis. Called ‘Estuarine’, it is based on the waterways of the area and will wind its way over and around the wall, turning it into artefact of interest in the landscape.

At the junction of Buckley Avenue and the new Hobsonville Point Road, and close to the Old Headquarters Building and Memorial Flagstaff, artist Steve Woodward will install his work, ‘Clip, Tool, Heart of Stumps’. These are three symbolic works, carved in stone and referencing both the landscape and military heritage of the area. Using marble, granite and basalt, the contrast in colour [white, grey and black] will highlight the work dramatically.

Both Steve and Louise are among the top artists in New Zealand. Their commissions were the outcome of a selection process undertaken by the Hobsonville Land Company and with the endorsement of the Landscape Architects and Auckland Council. As the coastal walkway develops, look forward to further evidence of integrated and inspiring art in the landscape.