



HOBSONVILLE POINT

Moments away, a world apart.

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2015

COUNTING DOWN TO CHARITY CHALLENGE

It's time to dust off your running shoes and get a team together for the Hobsonville Point Runway Challenge.

The annual event, which will be held on Sunday May 17, is a family friendly day, giving participants the chance to walk or run 3, 5 or 10km as individuals or teams, all while raising money for worthy causes in the local community. Last year's event raised over \$6000 which was distributed to a number of different groups including the Kumeu Rugby Club, the Hobsonville Volunteer Fire Brigade, Hobsonville Point Primary and Secondary Schools and the Waitakere Girl Guides.

Now in its fifth year, the Hobsonville Point Runway Challenge has evolved from a commercial event to a charity event, proudly organized by the Henderson Lions Club. With 3, 5 and 10km courses for walking or running, there is an option to suit all ages and fitness levels.

Runway Challenge Committee Secretary, Shelley Robb, says the event is a great way for families to enjoy a day out together while supporting some good, local causes.



"The whole idea of it is that it's children helping children. All of the entry fees, set at \$20 per person, go back to the community in some way."

In fact, teams of ten or more who complete the same course can apply to have their entry fees go towards a charity of their choice, making it a great way to raise money for a particular cause.

Entries for this year's event are open and Shelley says participants are in for a few surprises in 2015.

The exact course, which will navigate accessible parts of Hobsonville Point, won't be revealed until the day of the event itself. This year will also see the return of optional obstacles along the route, but with some new challenges thrown in the mix.

"Last year we had tyres, hay bales, mud pits and nets to crawl under but we've learnt a bit from that and we hope we'll improve on the event this time round" says Shelley. "Every year we're working on making the obstacles harder and more difficult to keep the event interesting and make sure we give participants of all ages some new challenges along the way if they want to complete them."

This year's event also has a later start time than in previous years, a move which event organizers hope will work better for families and help create a whole day of fun.

Held at the Hobsonville Point Primary School, the Runway Challenge will also feature food stalls, games, music and other entertainment, with Auckland actor and musician, Karen Davy, as MC. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative costume and every participant will receive a medal and goodie bag.

"Get your family, friends, classmates or colleagues onboard and put your entry together. Everyone's out to have a good time and it's guaranteed to be a lot of fun."

For more information or to register, please visit www.runwaychallenge.co.nz.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Information Centre:

Open 7 days from 11am to 4pm

Display Village:

Open 7 days from 10am to 4pm

Hobsonville Point Farmers Market:

Every Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 1pm at The Landing, Hudson Bay Road

Hobsonville Point Art Market:

Every first Sunday of the month, in the Fabric Bay beside the Farmers Market at The Landing, Hudson Bay Road, from 9am to 1pm

Hobsonville Point Vintage and Craft Market:

Every second Sunday of the month, in the Fabric Bay beside the Farmers Market at The Landing, Hudson Bay Road, from 9am to 1pm

Kaipatiki Project:

Volunteers needed for nursery! Wednesdays between 9am and 12pm. No experience needed, learn on the job! Contact Kaipatiki for more info on 482 1172 or email restoration@kaipatiki.org.nz

Plunket Pipi's Playgroup:

From 9:30am to 11:30am on Wednesday mornings (during the school term only). Held in the Fabric Bay beside the Farmers Market at The Landing. Please bring a gold coin donation and your morning tea. Messy play activities available.

Hobsonville Point Runway Challenge:

Sunday, May 17 starting at the Hobsonville Point Primary School. Enter individually or as a team to walk or run 3, 5 or 10km. For more info or to enter, visit www.runwaychallenge.co.nz

NEW ARTWORK TO ENJOY ON LAUNCH ROAD

The rivers and streams of Auckland's Upper Harbour are the inspiration behind the latest addition to Hobsonville Point's growing collection of public artworks.

'Estuarine' by renowned Auckland artist Louise Purvis has been installed on the seaward end of the new Launch Road. The stunning work, which is made up of about 250 individual gabion baskets filled with red scoria, winds its way over a large retaining wall running alongside the road, transforming the infrastructure with an intriguing and impressive piece of art.

The curvy form of the work references the waterways surrounding Hobsonville Point and early explorations by local couple, Doug and Audrey Mill of Mill House, who photographed the area by air from a Gypsy Moth. The red scoria is a nod to Auckland's volcanoes.

Louise says 'Estuarine' is her largest work yet. She welded all 250 baskets herself over a period of four months and then supervised the two-week installation in January.

"Now that it's up I'm really pleased with it," says Louise, one of New Zealand's top artists. "It's very dynamic and it's got a lot of movement in it. I think it's a fantastic work."

'Estuarine' was commissioned by the Hobsonville Land Company following a selection process endorsed by Auckland Council and landscape architects. It is one of many public pieces to be discovered and enjoyed at Hobsonville Point, with more planned as the coastal walkway is developed.

"I like the whole area and all the landscaping," says Louise. "They're doing a beautiful job of making a nice environment for the lucky people who live there."



HOBSONVILLE POINT A WINNER FOR LOCHY

Playing with his friends, visiting the local playground and learning new things at school are just some of the reasons Lochy Woolford, 11, loves living at Hobsonville Point.

Lochy's answers saw him win a Kiwi Kids Scholarship worth \$1500 from Universal Homes, one of the building companies at Hobsonville Point. Five scholarships were offered to children aged 8 to 18 to help the lucky winners pursue educational goals at school. But first, they had to enter the competition by answering the question "Why I like living in my community".

"I am so lucky," wrote Lochy, a Hobsonville Point Primary School student, in his winning entry. "Every morning all our friends bike, scooter or walk and pick each other up and head off to school. Our friends only live minutes away from each other. My mum loves that because she calls it a safe community. We all look out for each other.

"I don't like living in my community, I LOVE living in my community. My place is the best place to be."

Universal Homes Marketing Manager, Mike Pearce, agrees. "Our Kiwi Kids scholarships are all about supporting and inspiring local communities with a more meaningful impact. Hobsonville Point is a remarkable place and we are thrilled to be able to give back," he says.

Lochy is using his scholarship to purchase a computer and software to help him and his classmates learn at school.



HUNDREDS ON-BOARD TO HAVE A GO

Once was not enough for many of the first time sailors who attended Hobsonville Yacht Club's Have a Go Day at the beginning of February.

Almost 200 people participated in the event, which was organised by the yacht club in association with Yachting New Zealand to encourage anyone who had not sailed before to get out on the water in a fun and safe environment. There was something for everyone on the day, with Optimist and Topper dinghies, a Weta Trimaran and even a waka taking would-be sailors to sea in the calm waters of the Upper Harbour.

Club Commodore Gary Swain says the day was a huge success, despite initial bad weather.

"The weather started off wet but got better as the day went on. No matter what, the smiles were the same all day. We had 192 people go for a sail and about 100 of them then went for another one."

Buoyed by the success of the day, the club hopes to build its own sailing fleet in time to repeat the event next year and is also starting a junior sailing programme. It has already received 20 membership applications from people who enjoyed the day and want to stay involved.

More information about the club and membership is available at www.hycnz.org.nz or simply visit the club at the far end of The Landing on Wednesdays or Fridays between 5pm and 7pm.



SUMMER'S SIZZLED AT COMMUNITY BBQS

A real sense of community is building at Hobsonville Point, as more homes are finished, more residents move in and the suburb continues to grow in size.

New and existing residents alike are rising to the challenge to meet their neighbours, with a number of spontaneous community barbeques and events being held throughout the area. Pocket park meet and greets, a Christmas in the Park celebration (complete with a visit from Santa) and even group house tours have been springing up across the suburb as people form new connections with others in the community.

Meteor Street residents, Clive and Helen Ellis, hosted a barbeque at their home earlier this year.

"The 'even' side of Meteor Street had been finished for a year and we all knew each other," Helen says. "So when the 'odd' side was finished around Christmas we thought it would be nice to get to know our new neighbours and make them feel welcome. We knocked on most doors and had a lovely welcome and also put flyers in letterboxes. Those that could come thoroughly enjoyed themselves and we all definitely feel more connected now."

BUILDING BEGINS FOR EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Construction of the permanent home for the Hobsonville Point Early Learning Centre is underway.

The Northern Auckland Kindergarten Association (NAKA) currently operates a temporary early learning centre in Hobsonville Point Primary School, with construction of the new and permanent building now happening right next door at the school's southern boundary.

Expected to open in the third term of this year, the new centre will offer an all-day service for 60 children aged between 6 months and five years, with 20 under twos and 40 over twos.

Designed by award-winning architect Phil Smith, the brand new building will incorporate four sections that merge to form a central heart.

Garth Halliday, NAKA General Manager, says it will be a high quality centre, representing the

best features and philosophy of both kindergarten and early learning centres.

"The service will be available for the long days required by some families and will provide 100% qualified and registered teachers to ensure the best possible care and education for all the children attending."

The centre's location beside the school will also help ensure a smooth transition for young children who progress there for their primary education.

"We have been most fortunate to be able to work with the staff of Hobsonville Point Primary School to operate a service inside the school since September 2014, which has enabled us to build great relationships with the school staff and the local community as we ready for the new centre," he says.

To add your child/children to the waiting list, please email info@naka.co.nz.



SCHOOL STUDENTS SHARE CELEBRATION

The 2015 year has started with a celebration of partnership for students at both Hobsonville Point schools.

The primary and secondary schools held a combined 'Waitangi Whanau Day' on February 5th, providing an opportunity for students to celebrate Waitangi Day together. The theme of this year's event was partnership - with Maori, with the local community and between the two schools.

The day began with a waiata and welcome at Hobsonville Point Primary School. Students then attended 90 minute workshops of their choice throughout the day, before a voluntary celebration and

dinner attended by parents, families and the wider community that evening.

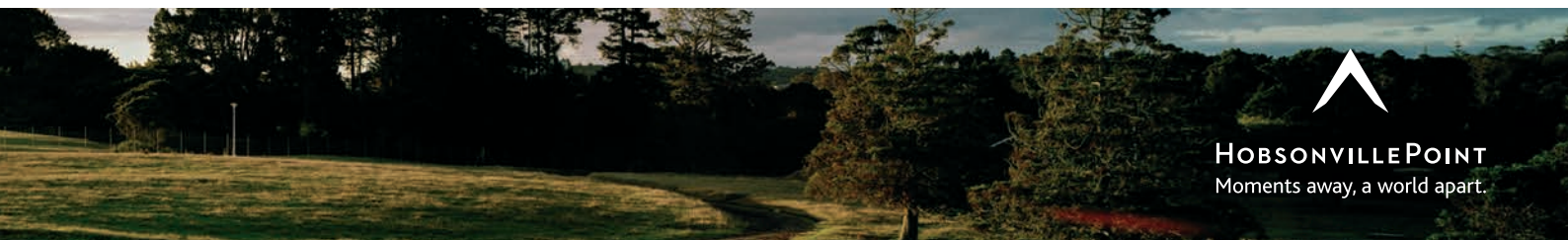
The workshops catered to every interest and included the Treaty of Waitangi, ki o rahi, waka ama, fishing, flax weaving, clay carving, stick games and slam poetry. Creations made during the day were shared with about 400 people who attended the evening event.

"Waitangi Whanau Day was about bringing the community together, enjoying each other's company and benefiting from being in a partnership rather than alone," says Sarah Wakeford, Learning Partnership Leader at Hobsonville Point Secondary School. "And it was a great way to start the year, to meet



our students' parents and to be proud of who we are."

The spirit of partnership between Hobsonville Point's primary and secondary schools is set to continue, with more shared learning events and opportunities to integrate the students planned over the coming year.



POINT PROGRESS

Work to develop Hobsonville Point Road is continuing, with 2015 already bringing significant progress.

February saw the completion of the most eastern end of Hobsonville Point Road including Launch Road. This new road provides another access to The Landing as well as services to enable the development of adjoining land in future. A significant set of feature stairs were installed as part of the works, allowing access to and from The Landing to both Launch Road and Hudson Bay Road. Estuarine, a major art work by Louise Purvis, also takes pride of place on the large gabion retaining wall at the bottom of Launch Road. This project was jointly funded with Auckland Council Property Limited.

January saw construction commence on the most western end of Hobsonville Point Road through the future proposed Village Precinct. Once complete later this year, this road will enable vehicles and pedestrians to travel from Hobsonville Village in the west to The Landing in the east, as well as providing services to enable the development of the Village Precinct. This road is being constructed by Downers NZ Limited who also constructed Launch Road.

Thank you to Hobsonville Point residents and visitors for your patience as this work continues.

STRONG INTEREST IN SUNDERLAND PRECINCT

Just four months since it opened, the Sunderland at Hobsonville Point showhome is proving popular with visitors.

Unlike existing precinct development at Hobsonville Point, which has been completed by several approved building partners, the entire Sunderland precinct at Hobsonville Point is being developed by Willis Bond and Co. Sunderland aims to set a new standard of living for Auckland, and with more than 190 new homes (consisting of Park Terraces, Sunderland Townhouses and Freestanding Homes) as well as 10 fully-refurbished former Air Force homes, there is an option for everyone.

Project Director, Wayne Silver, says feedback from visitors to the showhome, which opened in late November last year, has been phenomenal.

"Visitors have universally commented on the outstanding quality of the showhome and the exceptional design by Studio Pacific Architecture. The first release of new homes at Sunderland has been incredibly well received," he says.

"In fact, it is selling so fast that we had to bring forward our second release, which is now available. This new release features 22 Freestanding Homes and six Sunderland Townhouses, and is selling quickly with four homes already under contract. We encourage

you to come and see us soon if you want to secure one of these high quality, architecturally-designed new homes available at Sunderland."

Foundations for the first homes have now been poured and walls are already going up, with the first residents expected to be able to move into their new homes in September.

The Sunderland showhome is open every day from 10am to 4pm. It is located on Hastings Street, across from Catalina Café. For more information, please visit www.sunderlandlife.co.nz.



FARMERS MARKET SERVES UP MID-WEEK INSPIRATION

Fans of the Hobsonville Point Farmers Market now have an opportunity to share the stallholders' passion for their products.

This year the market has introduced 'Meet the Grower' evenings to give skilled artisans who exhibit at the market the opportunity to share their specialist knowledge. Those who attend are served a light refreshment before the evening's presentation by the market grower/producer. This is then followed by a cooking demonstration from market chef, Dan Pearson of Wild Fennel Company, and seasonal market cuisine is available to sample.

Market Manager, Stephanie Nossiter, says the evenings are a natural progression for the market, which has gone from strength to strength since opening in 2011.

"We like to think that the people who are moving to Hobsonville Point are doing so because of the lifestyle it offers. We see the market as one of the reasons they choose Hobsonville Point and we want to live up to that reputation, not just at the weekends but during the week as well. 'Meet the Grower' evenings close the loop and help give the community a better understanding of the products available at the market as well as the option to buy local."

'Meet the Grower' evenings are held at the market (located at The Landing, Hobsonville Point) from 5:30 to 8pm on the first Wednesday of every month. Plenty of parking is available. Tickets (\$20 per person) can be booked via www.eventbrite.co.nz or purchased on the door.

To keep up to date with market events, including the Harvest Festival this April, visit www.hobsonvillepointfarmersmarket.co.nz or follow it on Facebook. The market is at The Landing from 9am to 1pm every Saturday and Sunday.