BUILDING COMMUNITIES NEAR AND FAR

Old buildings demolished in Hobsonville Point are paving the way for new beginnings in Kenya, thanks to the efforts of a local business.

The Agency is contracted to undertake building demolition and remediation at Hobsonville Point. Owner, Elizabeth McMaster, says buildings that have been demolished include former barracks buildings, and the former Airmen's Mess.

"Hobsonville Land Company (HLC) are so responsible and I'm proud to work for them," she says. "They are accountable for every piece of land at Hobsonville Point and they make sure it's a great place to live and play".

But it is not just local children who benefit. About 80% of The Agency's profits, including money made from the work completed at Hobsonville Point, is being used to build a primary school and health centre for the Ekitale Namirembe Community in Bungoma County, Kenya.

"We've had our plans signed off and are now clearing ground which is awesome. The school will be opened by the Kenyan President and taking students in June," says Elizabeth, a Christian who works philanthropically through her organisation, Beloved Ministries.

Beloved has already built an early childhood centre in Ekitale Namirembe, the children from which will progress to the primary school once it opens. With seven classrooms, it will cater for 224 pupils, each of whom will receive regular health checks, including vaccinations, from Red Cross doctors and nurses at the onsite health centre. Next year, Elizabeth plans to extend the primary school and add a high school.

A typical Kenyan classroom houses 120 students, with teachers delivering each lesson



to 40 children at a time for 20 minutes before repeating it with the next group. By contrast, the primary school will have a maximum 32 children per room and be based on New Zealand's education system.

"We're not going to get anybody out of poverty until such time as we start educating the children, giving them some kind of hope. If we get the right support in the right environment, our kids will be successful."

Elizabeth is investing hundreds of thousands of dollars into Ekitale Namirembe and is delighted she has been able to be as responsible with this money as the companies from which it was earned.

"HLC is focussed on building a community. Well this work is just a different way of doing the same thing. If I can build a school and enrich this Kenyan community, then that's what I'm going to do."

For more information, visit www.belovedministries.co.nz

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Information Centre: Open 7 Days from 10am to 4pm

Display Village:
Open 7 days from 10am to 4pm on
Liquidambar Avenue

Hobsonville Point Farmers Market: Every Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 1pm at The Landing, Hudson Bay Road

Hobsonville Point Rainbow Run:
December 11, 2016 from 9am at
Hobsonville wharf. \$20 per person
(under-fives are free). All proceeds to
KidsCan

Summer afternoons in the park: 4.30pm – 6.30pm on January 29, February 26, March 5. Family fun in Hobsonville Point Park. BYO picnic, weather permitting. For more info, contact Gavin on 021 346 997

Neighbours Day: 4.30pm – 6.30pm on March 26. Hobsonville Point Park. Meet your neighbours over a BYO picnic.

Kaipatiki Project:
Volunteers needed for the nursery!
Wednesdays between 9am and 12pm. No
experience needed, learn on the job!
Contact Kaipatiki for more info on (09)
482 1172 or email
restoration@kaipatiki.org.nz

VISITORS ENJOY, EXPLORE AND ENQUIRE

Hobsonville Point is a must-visit destination for Aucklanders from far and wide, according to the friendly face that greets many visitors to the development.

Daniela Collins manages Hobsonville Point's Information Centre during the week and is often the first point of contact for those who are new to the area. Interest and demand has continued to grow with buyers of all ages enquiring about the development, she says.

"Hobsonville Point has become more popular. Visitors are coming from all over Auckland and beyond as they've heard about this development and they want to have a look for themselves. They discover things like the popular Farmers Market and the Coastal Walkway. Many families explore the area on their bikes."

Alongside the amenities and attractions, she says visitors are also impressed by the range and quality of housing options available from the development's eight building partners.

"Buyers are increasingly looking for properties that require less maintenance. They really like the sound of a modern, designed, new house that is well insulated, double glazed and energy efficient," says Daniela, herself a Hobsonville Point resident. "They are also drawn to the sense of community here. It's great to live in a place where you get to know your neighbours, you can walk or cycle everywhere, there are excellent schools close by and where your kids can play together in the neighbourhood."

The Information Centre, located behind Catalina Café at 1 Hastings Street, is open every day from 10am to 4pm.



NEW FACILITIES BECKON

Visitors will soon be able to enjoy the latest additions to Hobsonville Point's Coastal Walkway, Te Ara Manawa, with several of the key projects set to open this summer.

Work on the former Rifle Range, near Bomb Point/Te Onekiritea Point, is almost complete and this area will open later this month. The existing buildings have been retained and repurposed as a community facility where people can gather, play and enjoy music or performances. It will include a table tennis table and public toilets.

Also due for completion this month are the two bridges across Isitt Gully and Cochrane Gully (off Buckley Avenue). These spectacular bridges elevate visitors into the tree canopy and are another key link in connecting the coastal circuit.

Further along the walkway, construction is underway on the section that leads from Mill House along the coast through to the Sunderland Lounge.

"Included in the scope of works is an impressive cantilevered outlook which sits over the old wharf structure below and has impressive views up and down the harbour," says Hobsonville Land Company Precinct



Director, Robert Graham, who is overseeing the walkway's development.

Meanwhile, Harrier Point Park, located above Launch Road, is also under construction and is due for completion in March 2017. This park commands stunning views of the Waitemata Harbour and will feature a picnic and BBQ area, play and fitness equipment, and a public art installation.

And while it is not part of the walkway, Hobsonville Point's water play park is also due to open before Christmas. Located in the Catalina Precinct, the water park is part of a play trail that enables visitors to interact with water through gardens, pipelines, still and running water features and stepping stones.

WHERE THE OLD MEETS THE NEW

Another slice of Hobsonville Point heritage has been preserved, with four original Officer's houses moved from Marine Parade to a new location on Cochrane Road.

The four homes, which date back to the 1930s, now form part of the Sunderland Precinct which is being developed by Willis Bond & Co. Boasting beautiful wooden floors, terracotta roof tiles, gable ends and other original features, the relocated houses bring the total number of heritage homes in Sunderland to 15.

Willis Bond Project Director, Wayne Silver, says the four new additions play an important role in the streetscape of Cochrane Road and the precinct's overall design.

"The 15 heritage homes are a really important part of the Hobsonville Point story," he says. "Sunderland Ave is a whole street of preserved history, harking back to the heritage of the area, while Cochrane Road provides a transition to what Hobsonville Point is now. On one side of the road we're currently

building four new free-standing houses alongside which sit the four relocated heritage houses. Cochrane Road really is where the old meets the new."

Willis Bond intends to renovate the exterior of the heritage houses and complete landscaping work before selling them as renovation opportunities, a rare offering in a development that is largely being built from scratch.

Ranging in size from 118m² to 129m², all of the homes have three bedrooms and one bathroom, and are on lots of between 423m² and 570m².

"We've a had a number of people contact us over the years looking for the opportunity to renovate one of our Sunderland Ave homes," says Wayne. "This was not possible but instead Willis Bond has decided to present to the public these four homes in Cochrane Road as available for renovation."

For more information, please contact roz@willisbond.co.nz or matt@willisbond.co.nz.

PLANS FOR PRECINCT UNVEILED

Marlborough Oval will remain the focal point of Marlborough Precinct in new plans released by the developer.

Winton Partners has been chosen to develop Marlborough (formerly Sunderland C), a precinct which encompasses the oval, Jimmy's Point, the current Hobsonville Land Company offices, a seaplane hangar on Launch Road and four existing Officer's houses.

The focus of the masterplan for the precinct is to keep the oval in its existing shape as the main feature with a communal feel. The developer also intends to build a park space between the oval and the interface with The Landing incorporating design features, seating and some play elements.

Meanwhile, the seaplane hangar's exterior will be brought back to its historic best while the interior will be developed into edgy, loft-style apartments. A further nine buildings will bring the number of apartment offerings to around 300 dwellings. The four existing former Officer's houses on the waterfront will be refurbished and subdivided, and an additional 14 standalone homes built on the southern and western sides of the oval once Hudson Bay Road has been realigned.

Civil works, including developing a lookout at Jimmy's Point, are forecast to start towards the end of 2017 with construction planned for late 2018. Studio Pacific, Athfield Architects, Monk Mackenzie and Jasmax have been commissioned to design the apartment buildings while Origin Consultants will assist with the heritage architecture on the Officer's houses. The project is the first in Auckland for Winton Partners, which is also leading residential developments in Queenstown, Wanaka, the Coromandel Peninsula and Northland.



COTTAGE GIFTED TO COMMUNITY

Hobsonville Point will in time be home to a small community facility available for hire, following the gifting of Chichester Cottage by Hobsonville Land Company (HLC) to the local residents' society.

Located alongside Mill House, the cottage is thought to have been built about 1927. Doug and Audrey Mill lived in it while their neighbouring home was planned and built, later converting it to a studio in which to develop their aerial photographs. The cottage takes its name from Sir Francis Chichester, who stayed

in it during the 1930s prior to his later fame through sailing and flying.

HLC will restore the cottage early next year and it should be available for use by the community from mid-2017. It will be operated by the Hobsonville Point Residents Society on a user-pays, hire basis. Featuring one large room, a kitchen and a bathroom, it will be suited to small group activities of up to 20 people such as hobby groups, a practice space, exhibitions or garden parties.

SECOND SUMMER HERE TO STAY

The doors may have closed on Indian Summer's first premises but the journey through food is just beginning at the restaurant's new home in Hobsonville Point

Indian Summer, owned by restaurateur TC Suresh, traded from a Hobsonville Road villa for the past 12 years. That branch was closed at the end of last month but not before TC opened his new restaurant, complete with a refreshed menu, on the ground floor of the Brickworks Apartments on De Havilland Road.

"It was sad in the sense that every day when I worked in the villa, I didn't feel like coming out. It was just like being in a home away from home" says TC. "But this opportunity in Hobsonvillle Point has allowed me to create my dream project. It is something totally different from the conventional Indian restaurant, more modern, but at the same time it retains my fundamental expectation of creating impeccable Indian cuisine."

A visit to the restaurant is an immersion in what TC calls a "journey through food". From the Indian Summer motif, which directs diners to the front door, to the authentic Kolam patterns on the ceiling (signs of invitation and welcome), the Diya silhouettes in the bathrooms (akin to the oil lamps used during Diwali) and the illuminated storyboard showcasing India's great train trips, no detail has been overlooked. The kitchen has intentionally been left open to enable customers to

"The space was a blank canvas, an opportunity to re-invent the Indian Summer brand and the re-imagining of the environment which I felt embodied Indian cuisine" TC says. "It's been a long time in the making but the time was well spent, and I have the utmost faith that my patrons will thoroughly enjoy the experience"

Indian Summer can be contacted on (09) 972 4952 or (09) 972 4957. It is open fo lunch from 11:30am to 2:30pm, Monday to Saturday, and for dinner from 5pm to late, seven days a week.

SWEET TREATS TEMPT THE TASTE BUDS

Behind the otherwise ordinary door of 92 Hobsonville Point Road, extraordinary and exquisite home-baked delights are taking shape.

Hobsonville Point resident, Laurize Dela Cruz, operates Cakes by Laurize from her home. She makes custom cakes, French macarons, cookies, brownies and cupcakes to ordersweet sensations that delight both the eye and the palette.

"Four years ago, when I couldn't find a cake I liked, I made some cupcakes for my daughter's first birthday. Then my friends ordered the same thing and told their friends too," says Laurize, a Filipino who moved into Hobsonville Point earlier this year. She has converted the front room of her home into a dedicated kitchen and shop.

"This business is a dream come true for me. When I was a teenager my sister and I always dreamt of having a bakery or a shop. Maybe this is the one."

In future, she hopes to offer cupcake decorating classes for children and sell cakes from the cabinet but for now, she delights in baking mouth-watering creations for her growing customer base.

"It's nice to be part of someone's celebrations. When they see what I have created for them and are delighted by it, I'm motivated to do more."

Cakes by Laurize is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm. Visit Cakes By Laurize on Facebook or email cakesbylaurize@gmail.com for more information



LANDING TAKING OFF NEXT YEAR

The new year will herald a new look for The Landing.

The existing historic buildings and hangars have been readied for their rejuvenation, with enabling and service connection works now complete. Meanwhile developer, Willis Bond, has been progressing its architectural designs for the historic buildings and will begin construction in February. Stage one of the development comprises a mixture of hospitality, retail and commercial use. If you are interested in leasing space at The Landing, please contact matt@willisbond.co.nz.

Meanwhile, the boardwalk and public deck that leads into The Landing is also rapidly taking shape. Work is underway on this path, which snakes along the coastline from what was Marine Parade, and it is hoped it will be open for use in April.

Finally, plans for a wet edge along The Landing are also progressing. A wet edge is the result of dredging, which ensures the majority of all tide water remains at the base of the sea wall and the mud flats are obscured. This initiative is currently being priced and work should start in early 2017.



SHOW YOUR TRUE COLOURS

The school year will end with a splash of colour for Hobsonville Point Secondary School students who have organised a local Rainbow Run for charity.

The 5km run around Bomb Point will be held on December 11 and is a community event for all ages. Participants will be covered in coloured powder as they run, making for a colourful spectacle at the finish line.

"With three colour stations along the course and spot prizes, this will be a very exciting event you will not want to miss," says student, Molly Scott.

She is part of a group of student who have organised the run to promote community fitness and raise money for charity. All profits from the \$20 entry fee (under-fives are free) will go to KidsCan which supports less fortunate Kiwi kids by providing food, clothing and basic healthcare in schools.

The event briefing will be at 9am before the run starts at Hobsonville wharf at 9.30am. For more information or to register, visit www.hobsonvillepointrainbowrun.co.nz.

WARM WELCOME ON ARRIVAL

Visitors to Hobsonville Point will soon be welcomed to the area by two entry statements, construction of which is underway.

The first, located by Hobsonville War Memorial Park on the corner of Buckley Ave and Hobsonville Road, will announce 'Hobsonville Point – Onekiritea' while the second, further along Buckley Ave at the Squadron Drive intersection, will signpost Hobsonville Point Secondary School.

The entry statements (one of which is shown here in an artist's impression) have been designed to contribute to the identity of Hobsonville Point and announce to visitors that they have arrived.

