

NEWS

November 2005

6	<p>Auckland city libraries toast 125th birthday (City Scene) On November 11 it will be 125 years since the first public library opened in 1880, on the corner of Chancery Street and Courthouse Lane. Celebrations coincide with redevelopment of the central city library which is to commence later this month under a recently approved \$1.25 million contract. This will provide a new library café, an alternative entrance and internal changes and should be completed by April 2006.</p>
7	<p>Park and ride bus way-two stations open (New Zealand Herald Matthew Dearnaley) The country's first to park and ride bus stations opened yesterday on North Shore's northern motorway. The stations are being built by the local authority, otherwise the \$290 million project is being constructed by Transit New Zealand. The first two stations at Albany and Constellation drive will have buses using the existing motorway. The bus way, together with remaining stations should be completed within two years. Note: initial comments suggest that the park part of the park and ride facility is likely to prove hopelessly inadequate.</p>
9	<p>Planes told to fly away (the Aucklander Lauren Mentjox) This is another article resulting from the fact that ports of Auckland has given notice that it needs its Pikes point land, used by flying clubs, in order to store used cars. Note: this matter raises the issue of land usage and highlights the need for a relatively inexpensive and central site to be made available for model aircraft members and microlight aircraft pilots. This particular site has proven to be ideal in recent times and the nature of the subsoil is such that the land is unsuitable for major buildings.</p>
9	<p>A whistle finally blows for Panmure's new station (Tamaki Aucklander Alice Hudson) Planning issues are finally resolved so that a start can be made on the Panmure railway station, expected to be completed next March.</p>
21	<p>Cup wish list: electric trains, Queen Street tunnel (New Zealand Herald Rudman's city) Auckland will never see a bigger sports-fest so the Government should shell out. This wishful thinking by Brian Rudman comes at the end of an article dealing with the matter of who should pay what towards the Eden Park upgrade, estimated to cost \$100 million to \$130 million. He notes in passing the good news that the talk of a white elephant 75,000 seat \$400 million National Stadium, floated back in May, seems to have disappeared back into cloud cuckoo land. Note: in this particular respect we all thought that he was right to think that, but we were all wrong.</p>
30	<p>Councils float ferry plan to un-clog North Shore roads (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson) Rodney Mayor John Law yesterday persuaded counterparts in North shore City Council to join a move to bring back water transport as an alternative to clogging coastal highways from Auckland to Leigh. The proposal is to construct two new walks at Browns Bay and Takapuna, linking Gulf Harbour with Auckland's CBD.</p>