

# NEWS

## July 2008

	<p><b>A brief introduction to climate change and peak oil for New Zealanders</b> (booklet by Sean Millar and Adrienne Puckey) The authors have kindly presented Civic Trust Auckland with two copies of this important booklet.</p>
	<p><b>Clean or green, oil or nuclear</b> (business to business July Tony Alexander)</p>
	<p><b>Remuera heritage-chairman's annual report</b> The Darling July</p>
2	<p><b>Government-we paid top dollar for rail</b> (New Zealand Herald Audrey Young) See also editorial: "Kiwi rail costs must be visible".</p>
2	<p><b>Better train service tipped for Auckland-Mike lee</b> (New Zealand Herald Brooke Donovan)</p>
3	<p><b>Blue lid recycle bins come into use in July</b> (city scene)</p>
3	<p><b>Landmark Methodist chapel and surrounding site sold</b> (New Zealand Herald Simon Collins)</p>
4	<p><b>Let Auckland run its buses</b> (New Zealand Herald Rudman's city) The linking of bus train and ferry services is more a matter of chance or profit than good planning.</p>
4	<p><b>Rail electrification provides enormous commercial benefits</b> (New Zealand Herald letter from Barry Palmer light rail transit association)</p>
5	<p><b>No Rovers return-the old New Lynn hotel succumbs to demolition</b> (New Zealand Herald pictorial) It is sad that this scheduled 130-year-old building had to be demolished. It had suffered fire damage and was an earthquake risk. The decision to demolish was made on economic grounds.</p>
7	<p><b>Road user charges send wrong message to efficient cars</b> (New Zealand Herald Matthew Dearnaley) Why do the same road user charges apply to a small efficient diesel engine car as to a large gas guzzling SUV?</p>
7	<p><b>Fix leaky Aotea car park but leave square alone</b> (New Zealand Herald Rudman's city)</p>
7	<p><b>Pollution cannot be watered down</b> (New Zealand Herald Mike joy senior lecturer in environmental science and ecology at the Institute of natural resources Massey University) Agricultural pollution is effectively being subsidised by the New Zealand public.</p>
8	<p><b>Draft map showing houses eyed for the axe in residential 2 kept secret</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman)</p>
8	<p><b>More Orewa high-rise developments inevitable</b> (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson)</p>
9	<p><b>Every little drop helps planet-bright future for bio fuel</b> (New Zealand Herald Elizabeth Yeaman team manager renewables and energy supply, energy efficiency conservation authority EECA)</p>
9	<p><b>Region paying for quarries' bad image-few quarries being approved boosts cost of rock and stone</b> (New Zealand Herald Alanah May Eriksen)</p>
9	<p><b>High rises on Orakei headlands no done deal</b> (East and Bays Courier Melanie Verran)</p>
10	<p><b>Public hold key to \$25 million city facelift at Aotea Square</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) Public consultancy runs until August 1.</p>
11	<p><b>Vomit stains in the viaduct do not a world-class city make</b> (New Zealand Herald Rudmans city)</p>
11	<p><b>Mayor's lofty ideal attacked-is planning neglect to ruin Paris?</b> (New Zealand Herald Catherine Field in France) It is strange that in the city where the concept of heritage protection was born, there is increasing encroachment of increased height limits into the previously fiercely protected inner suburbs.</p>
12	<p><b>Waitakere kauri in danger from newly identified soil-borne disease</b> (New Zealand Herald Angela Gregory)</p>
13	<p><b>Forests to fall for food and fuel</b> (BBC Richard Black)</p>
13	<p><b>Have your say on Aotea square's look</b> (city scene)</p>

13	<p><b>An urban oasis for St Patrick's Square</b> (city scene) Work starts on a physical upgrade of the square which will include water features artworks and attract of night lighting as well as new page in setting and trees. <b>Civic trust Auckland</b> notes with regret that the attractiveness of the square has been compromised by the granting of permission for two major high-rise structures to be located immediately to the east.</p>
14	<p><b>Council axe hangs over heritage homes in residential 2</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) Proposals to take away protection from more than 3000 houses, merely because of an appeal by three lawyers, cause shock waves.</p>
14	<p><b>Sustainability no-go if you can't afford it</b> (New Zealand property investor) Workers both skilled and unskilled are needed, but cannot afford to live anywhere near the place they work. Councils have single-handedly driven up the cost of housing through inflationary land containment policies, stinging development and financial contributions and glacial resource and building consent administration. <b>Note: Civic Trust Auckland</b> is also concerned at the high development contributions being applied and the fact that a "poll tax" approach by local authorities favours the rich at the expense of the poor. Effectively, financial contributions represent a much higher proportion of the cost of a cheap household unit, compared with an expensive home. Local taxes for a cheap home can exceed the government's GST and then have GST added on top.</p>
15	<p><b>Service puts Helensville back on track-(for one experimental year anyway)</b> (New Zealand Herald Matthew Dearnaley)</p>
15	<p><b>Sensible deal of old homes in residential 1 and 2</b> (New Zealand Herald editorial)</p>
16	<p><b>Region's plan needs wisdom of Solomon</b> (New Zealand Herald Auckland governance special)</p>
16	<p><b>Heritage campaigner barred from Festival</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) <b>Civic Trust Auckland</b> board member and indefatigable Heritage campaigner Alan Matson is not actually barred from the festival as such, but barred from speaking on a topic which is the subject of an environmental court appeal against Council. Alan will definitely take part in the festival. Perhaps he can be persuaded to talk about transport and the place of the bicycle in the overall scheme of things.</p>
16	<p><b>Auckland Museum restructuring</b> (New Zealand Herald letter from Bruce Hayward, former staff, Council member and life member, Auckland Museum Institute. This letter from an influential party is one of many received by the Herald showing concern over restructuring by the new Museum Institute director.</p>
17	<p><b>Cost of train work alarms local body politicians</b> (New Zealand Herald Matthew Dearnaley) The Auckland region is to pay a much greater share of the cost of upgrading its Railways than does Wellington.</p>
18	<p><b>Volcano saved from intrusion of flats</b> (New Zealand Herald Rudman's city) Volunteer battlers of the Auckland Volcanic Cones Society have won a famous victory in the environment Court defeating plans to build multi-storey apartment blocks on the northern face of Maungarei/Mt Wellington.</p>
18	<p><b>Court decision protects Long Bay's good looks</b> (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson)</p>
18	<p><b>Rome's Mayor cracks down on virtually everything</b> (New Zealand Herald Peter Popham in Rome) Public eating, sleeping, shouting and singing outlawed. Is this a precedent for Auckland?</p>
20	<p><b>Council seeks feedback on plan change in residential 2</b> (City scene) Submissions deadline August 7.</p>
21	<p><b>Heritage groups campaign to save homes</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman)</p>
21	<p><b>Urban design champion rejects alien hotel plan on Quay Street</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman)</p>
21	<p><b>So much for lofty talk of public ownership (wharf areas)</b> (New Zealand Herald Rudman's city)</p>
21	<p><b>Court ruling delights Long Bay Park group</b> (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson)</p>
22	<p><b>Clean deadline call on coal power</b> (BBC Richard Black)</p>
22	<p><b>Mt Roskill motorway extension under microscope</b> (New Zealand Herald ask Phoebe)</p>
22	<p><b>Lawyer Richard Brabant joins fight to save old houses in residential 2 zone</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman)</p>
22	<p><b>Fight looms on public's access to East and Central port areas</b> (New Zealand Herald Craig Borley)</p>
23	<p><b>New reserve on significant historic site-Matukureia/McLauchlan's mountain and Matukurua Stonefields</b> (press release New Zealand government) <b>Civic Trust Auckland</b> is delighted to learn this news as its volcanic features protection subcommittee had made representations to the local authority for the creation of such a reserve. See also New Zealand Herald article on the 28<sup>th</sup>.</p>
24	<p><b>Age issue over demolition controls in residential two zone</b></p>

	(New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) "Heritage experts" have lifted demolition controls on thousands of character houses in Auckland city, apparently without detailed knowledge of the age of the buildings involved. In April the council's top planner John Duthie told the city development committee that many if not most streets with a variety of pre-and post-1940 buildings will stay in the residential 2 zone following the survey. In the event the current proposal is to lift demolition controls from 4128 houses out of 7600 surveyed (54.3%).
25	<b>Turmoil in heritage zone</b> (New Zealand Herald Melanie Verran)
25	<b>Residents to get talks on Orakei plan</b> (East and Bays courier Melanie Verran)
26	<b>Heritage houses</b> (New Zealand Herald letters column) This is an interesting letter from Stephen Moore which supports the Auckland City Council pragmatic approach. However the letter states that most pre-1940 houses are run down, cold, poorly insulated and leaky. There is no evidence that such homes are more run down than those which were built in later times, nor that any in significant numbers are leaky. It is true that when originally constructed, many were cold and poorly insulated, but such problems can be and often have been rectified.
27	<b>Protecting heritage from legal challenge</b> (city scene) This is the official Auckland city explanation for its back down over residential 2 heritage.
28	<b>If lawyers can say boo then so can you</b> (New Zealand Herald Rudman's city) Further comment upon the residential 2 heritage conundrum.
28	<b>Preservation for old Maori gardens</b> (New Zealand Herald Valmoana Tapaleo)
28	<b>Centre for continuing education-details of courses from August 2008</b> (New Zealand Herald supplement) Many interesting and worthwhile courses are available to the public. See the University of Auckland website for details.
29	<b>Plan for tavern (Devonport's Masonic) is the like scalping granny</b> (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson)
29	<b>Council's legal advice stirs up conservationists</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) Further comment upon the residential 2 heritage conundrum.