



Tōtara Haumaru update

August 2020

Keeping the North Shore Hospital community informed about developments relating to Tōtara Haumaru, the new four storey, state-of-the-art hospital facility, due for completion in 2023.

PROJECT UPDATE



Image showing fibre pipe (left) and section of trench (right).

It has been a busy couple of months on site. Digging of the 2.5-metre-wide by 1.5-metre-deep infrastructure trench is well underway. The trench needs to be this big to accommodate the gas, water and communication lines for the existing buildings and Tōtara Haumaru. It starts at Taharoto Road and will run along the boundary with The Poynton and connect with the main hospital via Hospital Road. This work is expected to take four months to complete.

Under the white shrink wrap that you can see from

Taharoto Road, Henderson Demolition contractors are preparing to demolish the old buildings so that site excavation can begin. Martin Todd, Senior Project Manager recently provided a video update on the project. To watch [the video](#) and for further updates, follow [Waitematā DHB](#) on Facebook.

Contractors were able to work onsite under COVID-19 Alert Level 3. This week, as we move to Level 2, site managers will continue to work with contractors to ensure the necessary health and safety and COVID protocols are followed.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

With major infrastructure works underway, the roads on the North Shore Hospital campus are affected and parking is limited. To avoid delays, we are encouraging everyone, where possible, to use alternative transport if they need to come to North Shore Hospital.

The Smales Farm bus station is a short walk away and there are bus and taxi stops at the entrance to North Shore Hospital. To enable free drop off and pick up of patients, there is a 20-minute grace period before parking charges apply.



A recent photo of the planned site for Tōtara Haumaru.

MEET THE TEAM



Lee O'Neil is the Site Manager for Focus Group, the team contracted to manage the demolition of the existing buildings.

Lee started work on this project in December 2019. He begins each day with a site briefing that is attended by personnel working onsite. He runs through the work that is

being carried out and makes sure everyone is able to carry out their duties safely.

There are approximately 30 people working onsite now, with numbers set to increase once current lockdown restrictions are lifted and building demolition is underway.

A NORTH SHORE BABY



Assistant Site Manager, Gordon Simpson has a special connection to this project. The very building that his team is preparing to demolish was where he entered the world sometime in the 1970's.

Simpson said "it does feel weird knocking down the building I was born in, but it has definitely seen better days, so it is time to look to the future."

Simpson is also a bit of a rugby star, having played union for North Harbour and the Hurricanes before his international career as number 8 for Scotland. He even scored a try against the All Blacks in Carisbrook in 2000.

THE WAY IT WAS



Margaret Golding (nee Hands) in bed with her son, Christopher Thomas Hands, the first born boy at North Shore Hospital 1 August, 1958.

The North Shore Hospital's original maternity ward opened on 28 July 1958. Within three months, the North Shore Times reported 193 babies had been born in the new hospital, including three sets of twins.

Fathers could only attend a child's birth with written permission from the medical superintendent and were only allowed to visit at set times in the evening. Babies did not stay in the rooms with their mothers and were kept in a separate nursery where a strict four-hourly feeding routine was in place. The last baby to be born on this ward was a boy, on 13 November 1988.

WE WANT YOUR BABY PHOTOS!



If you worked, were born, or had a baby between 1958-1988, in the original maternity ward at North Shore Hospital, we would love to hear from you!

Email fsg.capitalprogramme@waitematadhb.govt.nz your photo(s) or a memory and we will include them in our electronic time capsule.