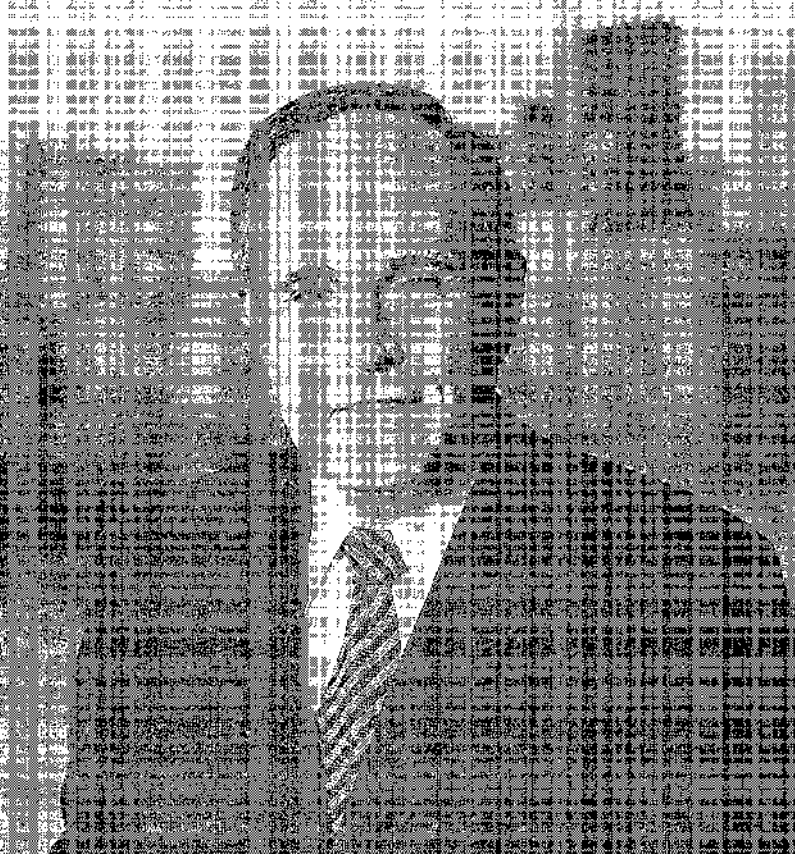


GIULIANI LEADERSHIP



GIULIANI
LEADERSHIP

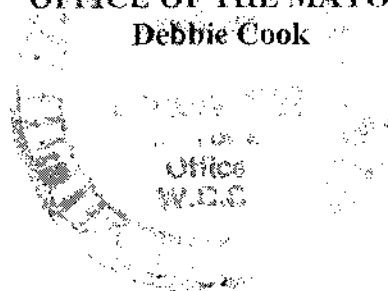
City of Huntington Beach

2000 MAIN STREET

CALIFORNIA 92648

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Debbie Cook



Mayor Bob Harvey
Private Bag 93 109
Waitakere City
New Zealand

Dear Mayor Bob:

I have delayed too long in writing to thank you for such a wonderful visit to your beautiful city and country. It was with much sadness that I departed Sunday evening, far too short a visit for such a spectacular land. Why has the journey to Waitakere taken us so long—but I arrived as soon as I could and am better because of it.

I appreciate all of the time you spent with me and on my behalf to make my trip so memorable. I enjoyed the opportunities to sit in on various meetings, the dinners with other elected officials, and especially the Maori Welcome Ceremony. I will never forget what it is like to greet another human by rubbing noses. That was special. While I didn't think anything on my trip could top that, I have to say I was totally awed by the production of "Trash to Treasure." I have not stopped talking about it since I came home.

Everyone told me you were an especially warm, enthusiastic, and engaging Mayor and now that I have experienced your hospitality I have become one of yours and your city's biggest cheerleaders. Thank you to your wife for the wonderful home cooked meal, your daughter for assisting in my transportation, and your council and staff for their kindnesses. I felt so at ease talking to everyone, it was as if we had been friends for years.

Finally, Sharon and Graham were terrific escorts and tour guides. I saw and learned so much because they were allowed to spend so much time with me. Thank you. There is so much to thank you for but I will end it here for fear of going over the top. Suffice it to say, I had a great trip!

I sincerely hope to see you again soon. My offer to ride with me in the parade is always open. After my term as Mayor is over on December 2 I hope I will have some time to get my photos in order and get a disk mailed to you. You are an inspiration to your community and most definitely to me.

Yours Truly,

Debbie Cook, Mayor

SPEECH NOTES FOR MAYOR BOB HARVEY
TO OPENING OF WEST WAVE AQUATIC CENTRE
9 NOVEMBER 2002 10.30AM
SEL PEACOCK DRIVE, HENDERSON

Prime Minister Helen Clark

Sir Paul and Lady Reeves

Madame Yang The Consulate General of the People's
Republic of China

Mr Mizuno The Consulate General Of Japan

Members of Parliament; MP Lynn Pillay, Minister of
Conservation Chris Carter, Minister Assisting the Prime
Minister on Auckland Affairs Judith Tizard

Members of our Sister City delegation from Ningbo Municipality

Fellow Councillors and Members of the Community Board,

Prime Minister,

You were with us eleven months ago almost to the day. It was
Friday the 7th of December last year.

Some will remember it as the day that construction began on
the new Waitakere Hospital. That construction is well under
way, delivering on a promise that you made to the west many
years ago.

Others will recall it as the grand opening of the Massey Leisure
Centre and Library, itself the result of many years of planning
and construction.

But it was also that morning that we heard the tragic news of
the death of Sir Peter Blake at the mouth of the Amazon.

It was truly a difficult day.

Yet in the midst of all that, you coped graciously while opening the Massey Library in a Waitakere rainstorm that threatened to take the entire marquee and all of us away with it.

In the course of that long day, we all dealt with the sadness, but also with pride, with generosity, and a hope for a better future.

And so did you did, Prime Minister.

That memorable day illustrated the qualities required of leadership.

In the midst of it all, you give thanks to the occasion and the people who have made it possible.

There will always be grief and sadness that needs to be attended to.

There will always be storms that threaten to blow it all away.

And yet what is built sustainably, is that which endures.

Today, on a calmer, finer day, we welcome you back.

Back from the storms of international terrorism.

Back from a very successful re-election.

Your recent trip to the middle east and to APEC convinces us all that we are a global family, buffeted but survivable.

At the recent Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development in July this year, we both sent a clear message to the world about sustainability requiring durable leadership.

Here in Waitakere, we have made sustainability the hallmark of our public and government partnership. This year we celebrate ten years of New Zealand's first eco-city.

We are very proud of what we have achieved.

Sustainability as a pathway for leadership weaves the three strengths of the community, the economy and business together as a whole.

And in a way, this West Wave Aquatic Centre does just that.

It is a place to bring your family – our kids just love playing in water, and all parents love to see their children playing in a safe environment.

Swimming is about strengthening community wellbeing in other direct ways, through health. Swimming activities, and the nearby gymnasium, will be a huge drawcard for young people looking for a day out, or workers beating stress, or others simply seeking to improve their lives with regular exercise. After all, why Push Play when you can Just Add Water?

This is also a place with significant environmental features, including thermal insulation, full solar water heating, natural lighting with double glazing, massive rainwater collection and water recycling, and power cogeneration.

So there is clear delivery on two pillars of sustainability; the community and the environment.

This large project is the culmination of over a decade of work.

I want to take a moment to thank all who made this centre and this day possible, and to note a few in particular.

Allan Rutledge for getting the project almost to the finish line
Simon Guilleman the Project Manager
Naomi McCleary and Virginia King for the arts coordination
John Fraser Creative Spaces The Architects
Gibson O'Connor the contractors

Prime Minister, look around you. This pool will soon be full, and you will help us do that before you leave.

It is surrounded by glorious local art, and I would like to acknowledge the artists and their work.

Bernard Makoare of Ngati Whatua and Te Warena Taua for the design, text and sculpture work

Graeme Gash for the glass design

Zeke Wolf for the ceramic fish, and much more

There's a book called *The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner*. That same loneliness applies to the long distance swimmer.

Prime Minister, I know you are not a swimmer but a climber and a walker. I would think that the outdoors speaks to you in the same way that water speaks to us.

I can't imagine a more positive enjoyment than swimming. And everyone that swims, I am sure, has a better life, healthier and more positive.

Four days a week you will see me down at the pool.

In a moment you will open this pool by cheering our young people down the hydroslide.

Politics is like a hydroslide. Once you climb the ladder to the top, there's no going back. It's a thrilling ride, with many twists and turns, you're often turned upside down, and you rarely see where you are going. And sometimes you land with a terrible splash.

But Prime Minister, it's great fun while you're doing it.

Prime Minister, you are now just over one hundred days into the new term. May your leadership have the endurance, and the grace, of the Long Distance Swimmer, Walker, or Climber.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Helen Clark.

Ends

Art on the Western Front

Waitakere is now recognised as one of the most creative and dynamic regions in the country. With its arts design collaborations, the city is redefining the relationship between art and architecture.

This year Waitakere City Council won the Creative Places Award for its outstanding Massey Leisure Centre and Library, which is a seamless integration of site-specific art and architecture.

The council is streets ahead of other local bodies when it comes to recognising the importance of art in reflecting its history, culture and environment. With every new building project it ensures that artists work alongside architects and engineers to create dynamic urban and park environments.

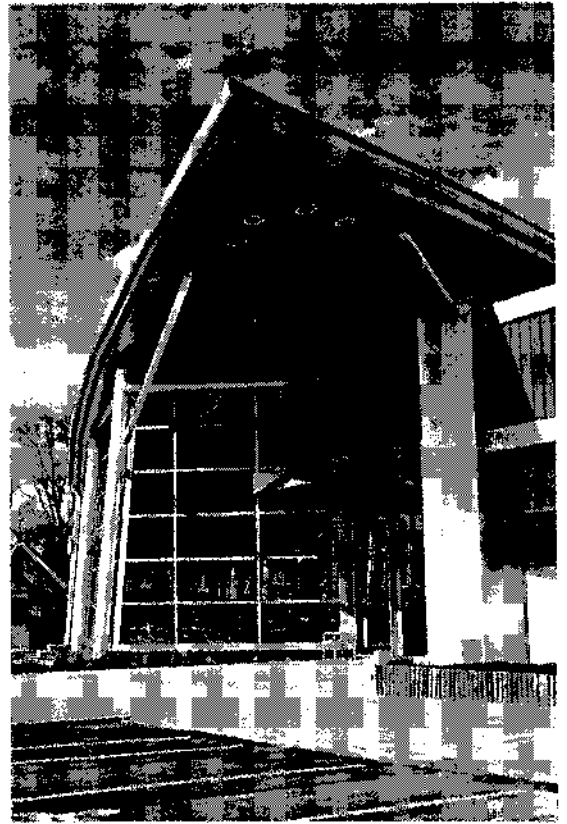
Through a process it calls the arts design collaboration the Waitakere City Council gives artists equal status with other design professionals. Each time it calls for tenders for a new public building the contract states that architects must work with a lead artist on the design of the building. As well as having significant input into the architectural design, lead artists select a group of artists to make site-specific work for the building.

West Wave, the new \$14 million aquatic centre in Henderson takes this arts design collaboration a step further. Not only is there a seamless integration of artworks and architecture but the lead artist, sculptor Virginia King, working alongside architects John Fraser and Bob Allen of Creative Spaces Ltd, defined the shape of the building from the outset.

The result is an iconic building, which manages to be serious, sophisticated and fun at the same time. Serious because it reflects the history, culture and environment of the West Coast; sophisticated because it is a complex and exciting piece of architecture; and fun because it is a dynamic recreation space incorporating a lazy river, a hydro slide, toddlers' pools and a wave pool.

It avoids the Disneyesque tendencies of most recreational centres, and must surely be one of the few brainty and sexy aquatic centres in existence.

There is scarcely a straight line in the building and



The entrance to the new aquatic centre, which is linked to the fitness centre on the right

its curvilinear shapes reflect the dominance of water – the sea, rivers, waterholes and waterfalls – in the region. Architect John Fraser says it was a challenge to achieve such an organic building because it involved complex geometry and there were very few repetitive elements – for instance every beam supporting the leaf-shaped roof is different.

King believes the design of the elongated roof, which is tilted longitudinally, was the building's defining moment. It was partly a response to the long, narrow site, which meant the new building had to be squeezed between the existing fitness centre and bowling club. It also refers to the leaf canopy and the dominance of trees in Waitakere.

Another pivotal feature is the huge, curving stone wall, which runs like a dam along one side of the space. Water cascades over the side and text by Te Warena Taua, of local iwi Te Kawerau A Maki, is etched in stone sourced from the Te Henga quarry.

King says: "I wanted to acknowledge the impact of kauri logging in the area and to reflect on it and move on. The geology, flora and fauna of the Waitakeres were other influences. John Fraser and I developed the leaf shaped roof together – that was a connection with the local bush and we also brought in the idea of the waterfall and swimming hole. Many of us grew up swimming in creeks and the Waitakere Ranges are rich in waterfalls and small deep pools."

Though it's hard to pinpoint where the artist's influence ends and the architect's begins, the organic

shapes of the pools in the aquatic centre clearly have King's stamp on them – she drew a series of water features at the outset and Fraser translated this into reality. She has also designed two water sculptures and a row of life-size nikaus, which stand on the edge of the lazy river. One of the sculptures is a circle of water cascading down fibre optic cables suspended from the highest point of the roof in the middle of the large pool. King says she wanted to make people look up and notice the enormous height of the building at this point.

"I was referring to the girth of some of the lost kauri in the work. Although it will be fun to stand underneath this, it has a more serious reference."

Other artists who have made artworks include Zeke Wolf, Dean Buchanan, Graeme Gash, Bernard Makoare and Jenny McLeod.

King was paid a consultant's fee for her design input, which totalled several hundred hours, and she describes the two-year project as "exhausting compared with the indulgence and bliss of working alone in your studio".

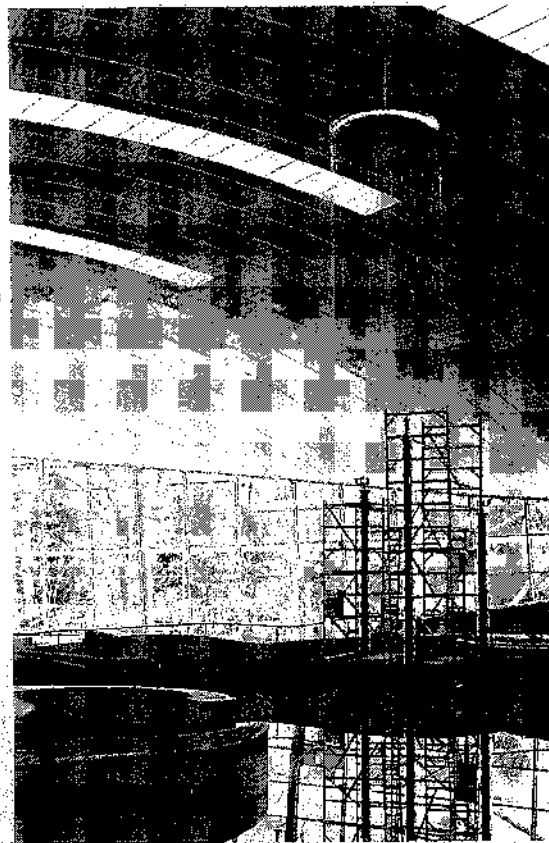
However, she loves working with a team and is no stranger to collaborating on big construction projects. In 1996 she designed the Rewarewa Footbridge in New Lynn for Waitakere City Council. This hugely successful project, which won a judges citation in the inaugural Creative Places Awards, in 1999, and a NZIA Resene Architecture Award, in 2000, was Waitakere City's first experiment in arts design collaboration. The council contracted Virginia King, architects John Anderson and Mike King, of City Design, and engineer Andrew Jackson to design a bridge to replace one that was unsafe.

"We'd been talking about arts design collaboration for years," says Waitakere City's Arts Adviser Naomi McCleary. "We'd had the Sites Pacific Symposium; we'd done little things but no-one at council had caught the vision sufficiently to get a big project up and running. So Rewarewa Bridge was it. Once that had happened we were on a roll. Subsequently, we did McLeod's Crossing with artist John Edgar, and currently we are working on a big bridge, designed by sculptor Neil Miller, across the creek at Corban Estate Arts Centre."

After Rewarewa came the New Lynn Community Centre, which won awards all over the country, and then the Massey Leisure Centre and Library.

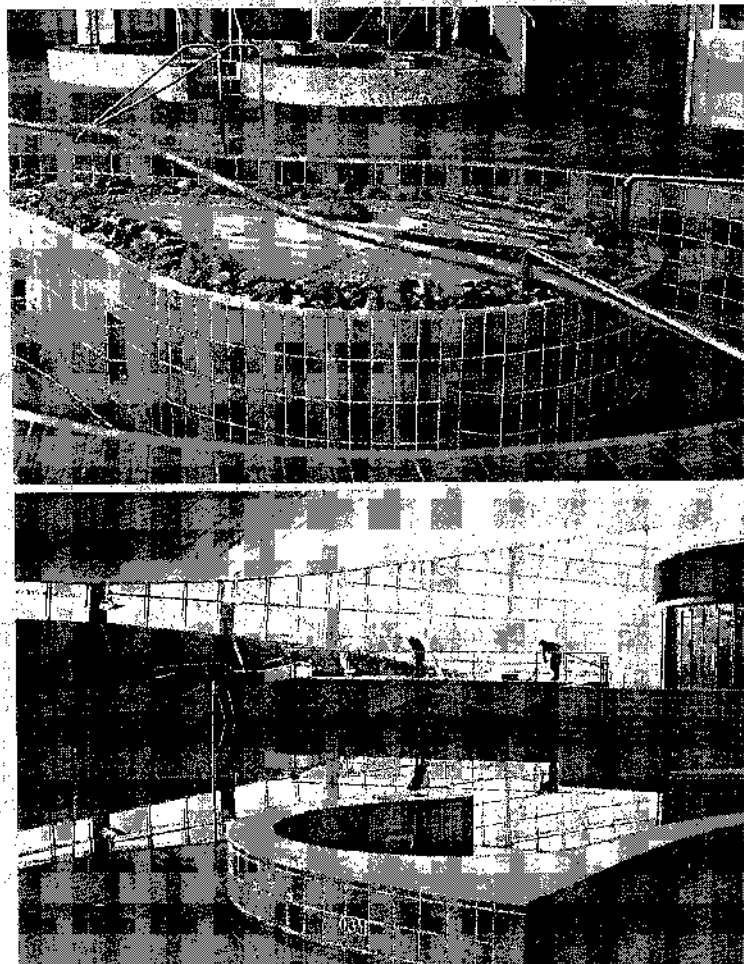
If you ask McCleary how a city of 170,000 people, which is not wealthy, can afford all this art she will

Virginia King's fibre-optic water feature refers to the girth of lost kauri. (These photos were taken during construction and the scaffolding has since been removed)



Below: the curvilinear pools originate from King's early drawings

Photos: Virginia Were



In the background on the left is the huge dam-like wall made from Te Henga stone. The wall conceals the neighbouring bowling club

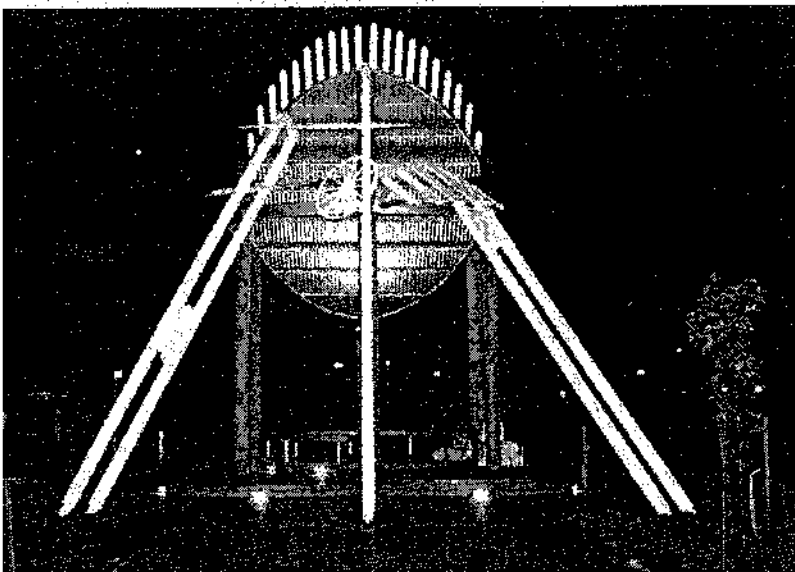
say: "What's different out here is the vision and the practice. It doesn't add significantly to building budgets to do it this way."

The "top-up" or art budget for the aquatic centre was \$50,000, and this was sufficient because finance for some of the artworks – Kiug's sculptures for example – came out of the building's construction budget, which included money for water features.

Ask McCleary why art has become the hot ticket in the Waitakeres and she will say: "It's the environment and the combination of people. I realised the way to build a Pacific skyline was to use the people who understood the land and the history, and those are the artists. It's my passion and I've worked towards it for ten years in a fertile environment. And it starts with Bob Harvey at the top who is arts literate and an arts supporter. And it's built on by an administration that took declaring Waitakere an eco city in the early 1990s very seriously."

McCleary says the biggest changes have happened in the last two or three years.

"Suddenly there are these really significant buildings going up. It's like trees – for years the city has been planting trees, wildly and madly and wonderfully. And you knew they were doing it because you worked here but you didn't quite see the impact. Then suddenly you realised, 'Wow, they're growing'. It's a critical mass thing and it's the same with art. We're getting to the stage where there is art everywhere."



John Lyall's pavilion in Jack Pringle Park, Te Atatu North, is one of the most recent site-specific works commissioned by the council. It's constructed from laser-cut steel, corrugated iron and timber posts and plays with elements of the colonial villa

Another example of Waitakere's visionary approach to the arts is the Corban Estate Arts Centre in Henderson, which opened in September. Like Lopdell House Gallery in Titirangi, Corban Estate will run an exhibition programme as well as classes, events and activities.

In 1992 the council bought Corban Estate, a large homestead built by the Corban family in 1925, and a sprawling conglomerate of buildings where the wine-making took place until ten years ago.

A trust was formed in 1998 and Tanya Wilkinson was appointed as Director to oversee the process of transforming this beautiful five-acre estate, bounded by the Opanuku Stream, into an arts centre. Stage one is now complete, with three galleries, a shop and an office in the large homestead, and meeting rooms and about ten artists' studios in the industrial buildings. The next stage is to develop the grounds.

Wilkinson is chuffed that the opening of the centre coincided with Corban Estate's 100th anniversary. In 1902 Lebanese immigrant Assid Abraham Corban purchased ten acres of land in Henderson with the intention of starting a vineyard.

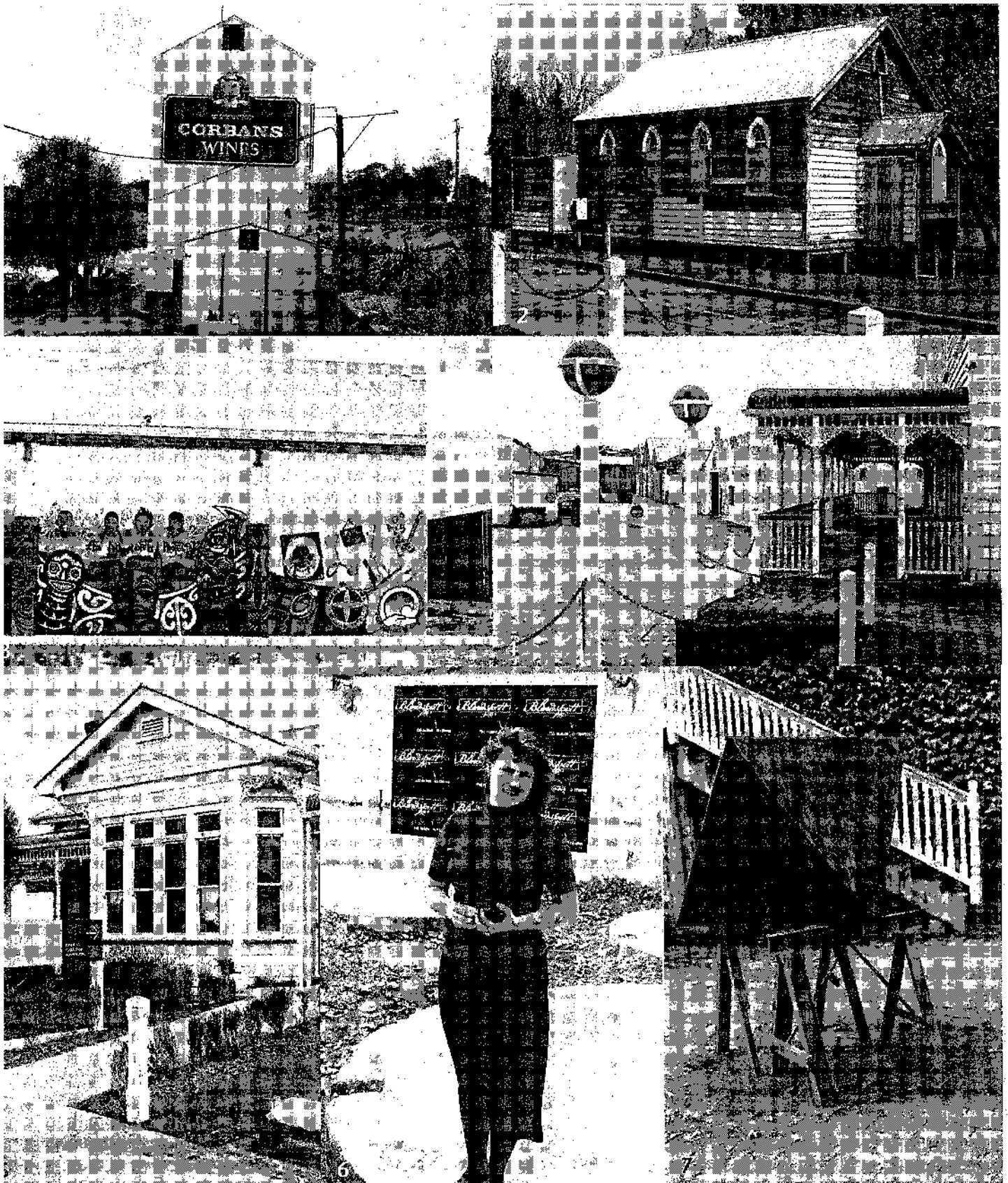
Appropriately, the inaugural exhibition details the history of the Corban family, and in it you can see the carved wooden trunk that Assid Corban carried with him when he arrived in New Zealand in 1892. He worked as a travelling salesman, selling fancy goods, and was joined by his wife and their two children seven years later. Eventually, the couple had nine children, all of whom married and brought their husbands and wives to live in the homestead.

These days the studios are occupied by local sculptors, painters, a jeweller and a ceramic artist. The Pacifica Weavers' Group, affectionately known as The Mamas, is also in residence. On the first Saturday of every month there is a Pacifica Market, which features local art and crafts, food and entertainment.

As well as being the base for the annual Trash to Fashion Awards, the centre runs a programme of art classes and three new courses have been announced for the summer school in January: bronze sculpture with David Reid; life drawing with Allie Eagle, and sculpture with Fata Feu'u.

Just like Assid Corban, who showed that anything is possible when you have the will and the vision, Waitakere City Council is redefining the west, making the city a place where art and architecture are woven into the fabric of everyday life.

/Virginia Were



1. The Still Building was formerly used to produce spirits for fortified wines and now houses artists' studios. 2. This historic Henderson church associated with the Corbans is being renovated. 3. The mural by Nuake Sirikige was commissioned by Safer Waitakeri for the estate. 4. The lower storey of the homestead. 5. The entrance to the homestead, which once comprised 21 rooms. 6. Director Tanya Wilkinson. 7. *On*, 1999, steel sculpture by resident artist Neil Miller in the estate grounds.

**BULLET POINTS FOR MAYOR BOB HARVEY
GE FREE MARCH ALBERT PARK AUCKLAND CITY
16 NOVEMBER 2002 1PM**

- Kia ora to Jeanette Fitzsimmons, Nandor Tanczos, Ian Ewen-Street, and Metiria Turei
- I'm a passionate conservationist and "greenie" for over thirty years, since the Save Manapouri campaign in the late 1960s
- The first thing I did when I got elected in 2001 was to declare Waitakere City GE free in field and food
- Soon afterwards Jeanette Fitzsimmons and I opened Phoenix organics, a totally GE Free food producer
- On my Mayoral web page, I set a vote counter for GE Free. I asked do people want the City to be GE free or not. 96% wanted GE free
- It's ten years of the eco-city, where sustainability is a way of life
- At Johannesburg's Summit on Sustainability, my key message was that sustainability is good for the economy, as well as the community and the environment
- In 1992 we chose to take the clean green principles and apply them to a whole City. Here is my key message to you today: GE free is part of a wider platform of sustainability, and it can work.
- Food production is one thing New Zealand leads the world in. it means smart jobs. Why endanger that with GE?
- After all, with nearly 200,000 people, Waitakere City is the largest GE free City in the world.

Te Araroa Trust
and Random House
take pleasure in inviting you
to the launch of the book



at the Auckland War Memorial (Observatory)
on the 25th November
7.30pm - 9.30pm
on 25th November 2012

to be launched by
Sir Wilson Whitney

*New Zealanders are putting in
place a national hiking trail.
This book tells their story, and the
adventures of the journalist who walked the
2,600 km from Cape Reinga to Bluff.*

RSVP to Miriam Beaton
Ph: 09 445 0524
email: beatson@teararoa.org.nz



I was hurting the whole way through the run, but because the race was still very close I had to push the whole way. Also I still had no idea what my position was. Therefore, I had to run as hard as I could to gain a desirable result. With two kilometers to go I was caught and past by a competitor. This was very draining mentally, but instead of giving up and walking to the finish (which is all I felt capable of doing) I pushed on. I used him as a carrot and ran as hard as I could. Once I entered the final kilometer I pushed even harder, as nobody was going to pass me before the finish line.

I crossed the line thoroughly drained and exhausted. I couldn't have gone any harder and had to be happy with that. In the end I had placed 9th. Something I didn't discover until 10:30pm, which meant I rode back to the hotel unaware of my placing, but happy with my performance.

I am very pleased with my result. I wanted to be in the top ten. To be honest I would have liked to been able to gain the victory, but I wasn't good enough on the day. However, I see this as a benefit, as I know now how much I must improve, and where I need to improve. I have a whole year to implement this. Also this was my first World Duathlon Championships, so I can only get better. Next year the World Championships are in Switzerland and I plan to dominate the race, and in doing so become World Champion.

Thank you very much for your support in my build-up it was greatly appreciated, and I hope that support will be there for me through the next year.

Yours sincerely,

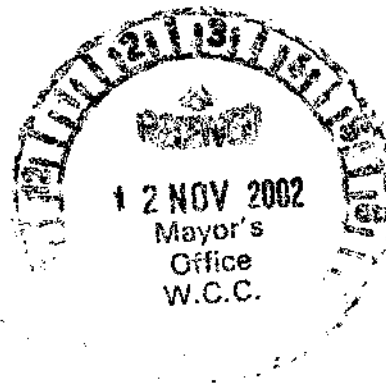


Jon-Paul Hendriksen.

Clive & Jeanette Wensor
7 John Webster Place
Glen Eden
WAITAKERE CITY 1007

Ph 09 818 0191

13 November 2002



*copy to Vanessa Sherer
Grant Jennings
& Jack Burton.*

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to say thank you to you and your staff. On October 24th I phoned your office to speak with you regarding the safety of children around an unsafe water way in our street. You had left the office for the day so I spoke with a very nice lady of whom I am very sorry to say and rude of me to have forgotten her name. This lady assured me she would get in contact with someone regarding this issue.

The following day I received a call from your parks manager Mr Grant Jennings who was also very pleasant and helpful, Mr Jennings assured me that he would have someone come to see me on the 29th of October and that something would be done about this unsafe water way.

Mr Jack Burton your Parks quality assurance and liaison officer called in to see us and this very nice gentleman had organised the installation of the fence within the week. As the mother of a seven month old it is reassuring to know that now there is unlikely to be a nasty accident concerning any of the streets children or visitors to the street. I used to watch from my door step in horror as a child or dog would run after a ball and only the quick actions of parents or adults close by prevented such a disaster.

Mr Harvey, I once again thank you and your staff for the prompt response to my phone call, our family and all the other families in the street feel a lot safer. The contractors who did the work did a wonderful job, the fence looks totally in keeping with the surroundings.

with many Thanks

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Jeanette Wensor'.

Mrs Jeanette Wensor

WHY ARE NEW ZEALANDERS SO WEALTHY? asks Arthur Grimes

GUEST ARTICLE

TABLE 1: Index of Family Wealth and GDP per Capita

Country	Index of Family Wealth	Index of Family Wealth Ranking*	GDP per Capita (PPP) Ranking†
Australia	0.42	6=	12
Austria	0.25	10	10
Belgium	-0.09	18	9
Canada	0.41	8	6
Czech Republic	-0.86	25	25
Denmark	0.49	5	8
Finland	0.22	11=	15
France	-0.15	22	16
Germany	0.20	13	14
Greece	-0.45	24	24
Hungary	-0.87	26	26
Iceland	0.53	4	4
Ireland	0.05	16=	7
Italy	0.12	15	18
Japan	-0.14	20=	11
Korea	-0.27	23	23
Luxembourg	0.32	9	1
Mexico	-1.44	28	28
Netherlands	0.18	14	13
New Zealand	0.22	11=	20
Norway	0.56	3	3
Poland	-1.00	27	27
Portugal	-0.13	19	22
Spain	-0.14	20=	21
Sweden	0.65	1	17
Switzerland	0.05	16=	5
United Kingdom	0.42	6=	19
United States	0.61	2	2

* OECD Programme for International Student Assessment, survey conducted in 2000, www.pisa.oecd.org/

† United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report 2001, GDP per capita (PPP, 1999) www.undp.org/hdr/2001/

It is commonplace in New Zealand to bemoan our fall in living standards relative to the rest of the developed world. In 1950 New Zealand ranked third in the OECD in terms of GDP per head. That position had fallen to 20th by 1998¹ and recently Spain passed New Zealand relegating us to 21st place. Government has recently expressed an explicit aim to return New Zealand to the top half of the 28 OECD countries in terms of income per head.²

New Zealand's 21st ranking within the OECD in terms of GDP per head (per capita income)³ indicates that New Zealand has a long way to go to achieve the government's aim. Further, that ranking is made on the basis of measures of GDP per head using Purchasing Power Parities (PPP). These measures are intended to adjust for the different cost of living in each country.

While PPP per capita measures are supposedly superior to dollar-based measures, there is reason to doubt their effectiveness in adjusting for inter-country purchasing power. The studies use rather outdated estimates of living costs. Other technical issues (such as the appropriateness of the basket of goods used in the measure) also raise concerns that PPP figures are not always reliable for making cross-country comparisons.

In 2000 the OECD conducted an inter-country education study, the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). The purpose of the study was to measure cross-country performance of 15 year old students in the fields of reading, mathematical and scientific literacy. The study involved detailed sampling in each OECD country (and in a number of non-OECD countries) to ensure that the results for each country were a true reflection of standards for 15 year olds across the whole of that country. (Details of the sampling methodology are available on the PISA website: www.pisa.oecd.org/)⁴

One of the factors which might help explain student performance is household wealth. Students from wealthier backgrounds are normally found to perform at higher average

levels than students from poorer backgrounds. To test the influence of this factor, the PISA study supplied a questionnaire to each student covering their access to various items. The items included:

- the availability, in their home, of a dishwasher, a room of their own, educational software, and a link to the internet; and
- the number of cellular phones, television sets, computers, motor cars and bathrooms at home.

Wealthier households were expected to have more discretionary income than less wealthy households and so were expected to be able to acquire more of these high quality goods and services than poorer households.

The availability of these items was used to construct an index of family wealth.⁵ For the OECD countries, this index has an average of zero and a standard deviation of one. It represents an explicit survey-based wealth measure which is consistently measured across all OECD countries and which is standardised for families at a similar life-cycle stage (since each must have a 15 year-old in the family).

The resulting Index of Family Wealth is presented in Table 1 for each country together with the ranking of each country out of the 28 OECD countries. Sweden, United States, Norway, Iceland and Denmark (ie the Scandinavians plus the USA) are ranked as the five wealthiest countries. The six new members of the OECD (Mexico, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Greece and Korea) are ranked lowest. These results accord with intuition.

Three other notable results stand out. Firstly, Australia is ranked sixth equal (with the UK).

Again this result (at least for Australia) is in accord with intuition; on the basis of observed lifestyles, Australia does appear to be a relatively wealthy country. This result demonstrates the high hurdle New Zealanders set when comparing our living standards with those of our closest neighbour.

Secondly, France is ranked the seventh poorest country (it is the poorest country after the six new OECD entrants). The reason for this result may be connected with the reasoning underlying the third result.

The third notable result is that New Zealand is ranked 11th equal (with Finland). It is ranked as a wealthier country than Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Ireland, Switzerland, Belgium and Japan.

Each of these countries, and the aforementioned France, are ranked ahead of New Zealand in terms of GDP per capita, measured using purchasing power parity (these rankings are listed also in Table 1). However, each of these countries suffers from protectionist policies and other forms of regulation affecting access to consumer goods and services. For instance, the Common Agricultural Policy in Europe and Japan's agricultural protectionism make the cost of food – a basic determinant of living standards – much higher in these countries than it is in New Zealand. By contrast, New Zealand's liberalisation programme has delivered low levels of border protection, reduced domestic regulation and increased product choice for New Zealanders.⁶

One explanation therefore for New Zealand's relatively high family wealth ranking is that living in New Zealand is cheap. The cost of living is not raised needlessly by excessive government intervention. Incomes (measured by GDP per head) may not be high, but low living costs associated with competitive markets more than make up for this so as to deliver high living standards.

Independent confirmation of this explanation is indicated by the March 2002 Mercer Human Resource Consulting survey of living costs in major world cities. That survey, which measured the comparative cost of over 200 items, indicated that the cost of living in Auckland and Wellington ranked 140th and 142nd respectively out of the 144 surveyed cities.⁷ Thus incomes in New

Zealand can afford to be much lower than elsewhere and still be consistent with access to high quality goods and services.

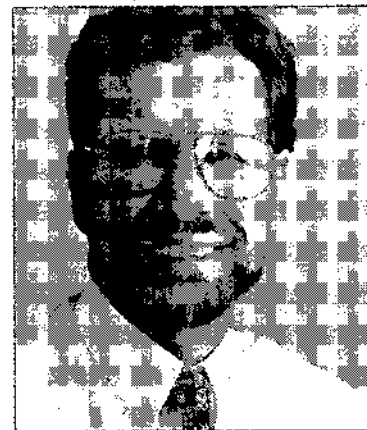
The PISA results indicate that the government's target has already been achieved: New Zealand is ranked in the top half of the OECD in terms of family wealth. However we cannot rest easily. If the countries below us were to liberalise their economies, so making the cost of living cheaper for their families, they could leap past us in terms of living standards. Our relative living standards might then more closely reflect our relative earning power as indicated by the GDP per capita comparisons. The rankings won't stand still without New Zealanders continually striving to make ourselves wealthier.

While New Zealand ranks highly on family wealth in overall terms, our performance slips when distributional issues are examined. The PISA study lists the Index of Family Wealth broken down by wealth quartile. Thus we can compare the ranking of each of New Zealand's wealth quartiles with those of the other OECD countries.

In doing so, we find that New Zealand's top wealth quartile is ranked 10th out of the top quartiles of each OECD country. New Zealand's second quartile also ranks 10th amongst the OECD country second quartiles. Both these rankings are ahead of our overall country ranking. The corollary is that our third and fourth quartiles rank 13th and 15th respectively amongst third and fourth quartiles of OECD country wealth. Each of these rankings is below our overall country ranking.

Thus New Zealand has a more skewed wealth distribution than the OECD average. Taking the difference between the Index of Family Wealth for the top and the fourth quartiles in each country as an indicator of wealth inequality, New Zealand is ranked as having the sixth most unequal family wealth distribution in the OECD behind Mexico (the most unequal), Portugal, Poland, the United States and Luxembourg.

Each of the Scandinavian countries combine high family wealth with low inequality. Given this performance, New Zealand still has work to do in order to achieve the aim of both a wealthy and an inclusive society.



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- 1 See Maddison, A. (2001) *The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective*. Paris: OECD and Arthur Grimes (2002) *Growing a Healthy Economy*, IPS Policy Newsletter 88 9-13.
- 2 New Zealand Government (2002) *Growing an Innovative New Zealand*. Wellington.
- 3 Strictly speaking per capita income refers to GNP per head rather than GDP per head but GDP figures are more readily available and the rankings are relatively immune to use of either aggregate.
- 4 The only OECD country which had a response rate too low to ensure cross-country comparability of educational attainment was the Netherlands, although for purposes of completeness it is included in the comparisons discussed here.
- 5 This approach is similar to the approach used in the recent survey of Living Standards of Older New Zealanders. Ministry of Social Policy, Wellington (2001) which surveyed the access of older New Zealanders to certain items.
- 6 See Evans, L., A. Grimes and B. Wilkinson with D. Teeco (1996) *Economic Reform in New Zealand: The Pursuit of Efficiency*. *Journal of Economic Literature* 34(4) 1856-1902.
- 7 See News Release: *Worldwide Quality of Life Survey 2002 - City Rankings*, 8 July 2002 www.mercer.com

**SPEECH NOTES FOR MAYOR BOB HARVEY
AT SCHOOLS PRINCIPALS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
LINCOLN GREEN, 1.30PM, 20 NOVEMBER 2002**

Tena Koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou. I want to thank you for inviting me to speak to you today.

Usually when you are standing in front of any Principal at this time of year, let alone over a hundred of them, you are receiving pretty stern instruction about your report card.

So in a way I am presenting a report card to you.

It's a kind of "how are we doing" for me, after ten years of leadership.

A city, like a school, should provide a vision of hope and of a way forward.

They both need to be places of hope.

I am sure that at times it has been a year in which teaching and schooling felt like was a little on the back foot, with the industrial action, NCEA, and the Painted Apple Moth.

We have been and are in this for the long term, and, in the words of Albert Einstein, it is the job of leaders to find:

Out of clutter, find simplicity
From discord, find harmony

For all of us, battling through the upper reaches of bureaucracy can look small compared to the individual cases of people who come to you under enormous stress, wanting to change their lives and seeking wise advice or needing firm direction.

Educational research shows that the most effective strategy to be used by all leaders, not just teachers, is that of 'feed forward'.

We've got to do more than just say, 'good work, keep it up'.

It involves making judgements that show where people are doing things right, and how they can push their standards higher, and feel proud doing it.

The events of September 11, 2001 shook the world and have led to Americans reflecting upon all facets of life.

Included in that review process has been an analysis of the state of public education in the USA.

Two of the findings I find particularly affirm the way that principals in the Waitakere City area are doing.

'A school built around a strong sense of purpose and the cultivation of strong relationships across generations has the power to influence lives for a very long time ... it is in schools that we learn the art of living together as citizens, and it is in public schools that we are obliged to defend the idea of a public, not only a private interest.'

For many of the schools in this area, the ethnic breakdown is about

45% European
22% Maori
18% Pacific Island
15% Asian

And there will be about 40 nationalities represented in any one roll.

It's about the same for any one citizenship in the Council Chamber, which I do every month.

I want to make it clear to you all that we must all make a truly clear stand in the upcoming immigration debate: defend the children.

The children have no blame or shame.

The diversity of the City, like the diversity of the school, allows our schools to develop the skills necessary for them to operate successfully in a multicultural world.

You don't have to give up your culture or that of your ancestors to be a patriotic New Zealander.

We live in a small nation, in a city surrounded by the ocean. We have nowhere to go so we had better learn to get along with each other.

And in fact we do. Just last month I attended the annual Dipawali Festival of Light. Over 1,000 people attended, almost all recent immigrants to New Zealand.

The basic value system across all cultures deals with four areas:

- our bodies (to live)
- our hearts (to love)
- our minds (to learn)
- our spirit (to leave a legacy)

Murray Thom, the successful businessman behind the personalised number plate business was quoted in last weekends New Zealand Herald, saying that he wanted more than “he sold a lot of number plates” inscribed on his tombstone – he wanted to leave a legacy.

And that man will have been someone’s student, looking for a dream. He found it, and he knows that there’s more.

In that man’s mind, something said that there is more than self-interest in the world.

The journey never stops.

And for a leader, be it a Principal or the mayor of a city, the great rock road of triumph and disaster simply rolls in day after day.

And there is no greater example of that than the current book I am reading by the previous mayor of New York, Rudolph Guliani.

He faced a number of crises in his terms as Mayor, including marriage breakdown, cancer, organised crime, and the attack on the World Trades Centre on September the 11th

He concludes his book by saying that part of leadership is harnessing your passions in a way that serves your goals. And his father’s advice to him for such a crisis is: stay calm. But another part of leadership for that great mayor was to retain your humanity. And I quote from the book:

“The anger I felt, and continue to feel, about the attacks on the World Trade Centre is healthy. The challenge was to put it to work in ways that would make me a stronger, better leader.”

And that is true for all of us here. For me, and for you.

There is a great quote given to me by Tony Garelja the wonderful Principal of Waitakere College, who took a line from the poet Robert Frost:

“In three words I can sum up everything I’ve learned about life: it goes on.”

In reply I would add, and a leader gets up and faces it, feels it, and leads.

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

ENDS