

Big-name retailers come to town



John Cousins

SOME of New Zealand's best known names in retailing will feature in developments due to open in Tauriko and Pyes Pa over the next 15 months.

First up will be Redline Holdings' \$11 million development in Pyes Pa Rd where a major supermarket brand and a privately-owned aquatic centre will anchor the project.

Developer Terry Scott said builders were due to move on to the site next week with completion expected by next May. It will include a health centre, pharmacy and restaurant.

However the 1.5ha development will be dwarfed by Tauranga Crossing at Tauriko where the first stage scheduled to open in early 2016 will include The Warehouse, Warehouse Stationery, Warehouse-owned Noel Leeming and a Pak 'n Save supermarket.



PYES PA PROGRESS: Residents won't have so far to travel for their shopping when this emerging commercial development opens for business in about six months.

PHOTO/GEORGE NOVAK

Warehouse communications manager Joanne Fullam said the first phase of building would include another 25 to 30 stores providing convenience food, cafes, service retail and other general merchandising.

Tauranga Crossing will service The Lakes and surrounding residential areas and people working in the Tauranga Business Estate.

"It will bring a wide range of new employment opportunities and act as a hub for the community," she said.

Construction was due to start before Christmas, with a roughly-laid access being the first evidence that things were starting to happen on the 12.5ha block beside SH 29, at the entrance to the business estate.

The *Bay of Plenty Times* understands a service station was planned to be built on an adjoining site.

Development of the Pyes Pa site into a shopping centre and the Liz van Welie Aquatic Centre has been preceded by months of infrastructural works.

Tauranga Crossing Shopping Centre

- Stage one: 16,600 sq m of retail and 750 carparks
- Ultimate development: 44,700 sq m of retail and 1600 carparks
- Stage one completion: Early 2016

Greg Cummings, the husband of former Olympian Liz Cummings (nee van Welie), said they were working closely with Redline and hoped to start work on the Liz van Welie Aquatic Centre early next year, with completion by term four of the school year.

They were currently handling more than 1000 children a week at their swim school, with more on a waiting list.

"We can't wait to get the diggers in and start excavating the pools."

Mr Cummings said they had visited all New Zealand's major aquatic centres to learn from their mistakes and successes. One of the issues was choosing the right air treatment system.

Briefly

Armed man arrested

A man who armed himself with large knives before barricading himself inside a Tauranga home has been arrested. The man sparked a heavy police call-out on Cameron Rd, Gate Pa, yesterday. Senior Sergeant Glenn Saunders said police responded to a domestic incident just before 11am and found the man by himself at the address. Mr Saunders said police called in negotiation experts. "They got in and spoke to the man and AOS [Armed Offenders Squad] were summoned. However, he exited the address and was arrested before AOS arrived."

Mum and baby in crash

Emergency services were called to a crash involving a woman and her baby at Maketu on Sunday night. The woman had lost control of her car on the intersection of Spencer Ave and Wilson Rd about 8.45pm. Maketu volunteer fire chief Shane Beech said the car ended up on its side, wedged in the ditch, but both mother and child were not seriously hurt. St John ambulance treated them.

Complaints

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Bay punters get dolled up for Cup day

By Amy Wiggins
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Party frocks, hats and bow ties are being dusted off ahead of this afternoon's Melbourne Cup race.

Tauranga resident Graham Taylor takes the afternoon off work every year and gets dressed up to take part in the Melbourne cup festivities at the Tauranga Citizens Club.

"I've got a special shirt and I'll sometimes put a bow tie on, just something a bit special," he said.

"It's the one day a year I take off... I'm looking forward to it. It's always a good day, a good atmosphere."

The racing enthusiast said his money was on two horses.

"The Kiwi horse Who Shot Thebarman has a good chance. The Japanese horse [Admire Rakti] will go out favourite," he said.

Jim Hicks also planned to be among the 200 to 300 people expected to be at the Citizens Club for today's racing.

"We're just going to come in and have a couple of drinks and watch the Melbourne Cup. I



CUP DAY: Citizens Club Tauranga bar steward Margaret Thomsen making the final decorating touches for today's Melbourne Cup celebrations.

PHOTO/GEORGE NOVAK

Sweepstakes

- See pages 18 & 19 for the Melbourne Cup Sweepstakes

have a couple of bets every now and then when I can afford it."

He was also betting on Who Shot Thebarman but expected Admire Rakti to do well.

Club manager Joanna Young said the excitement started last night with the Calcutta action where punters bid on the horses in today's race. The club had sold 23 corporate tables.

"It is the race that stops two nations," she said. "It's just going to be a good day. It'll just be a good, fun day."

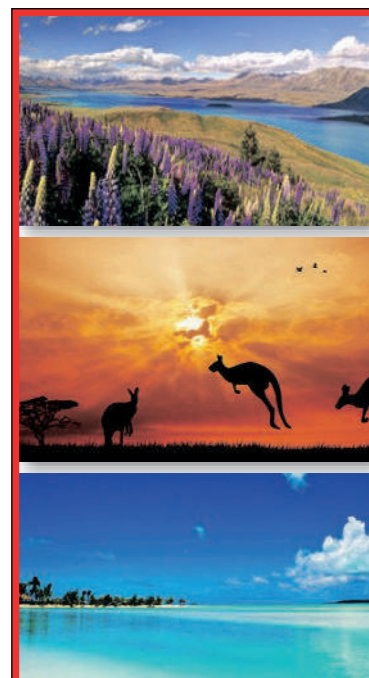
Cup day is the single biggest betting day for NZ's TAB. In 2013, the TAB took \$1.6 million bets on Melbourne Cup Day.

As of yesterday morning punters had favoured Kiwi sensation Who Shot Thebarman.



Today on The Hits 95FM
Bay of Plenty, with Will Johnston
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