

## **Karapiro 2010**

### Development

Projects recently completed include the relocation of the 20-tonne turbine (previously located in front of the old water sports complex) to allow the carpark and site works to be completed, and an upgrade of the boat ramp pontoon.

Work on the Events Centre is proceeding as programmed and will be complete mid May. The development includes a large 650m<sup>2</sup> multi-purpose space a cultural room and function rooms that overlook the lake. The area on the lake side of the building will be further enhanced by a concrete terraced grandstand seating with a capacity of 700 seats. The opening of the building is planned for early June.

Over the last few months a process to change the planning rules and zone associated with the Mighty River Domain and reserves to the south of the Domain (to better reflect the special characteristics and activities that take place) has been in progress. This plan has now been adopted by council.

Upcoming proposed works include the construction of a concrete pathway between the launch pontoons and the boat ramp to complete the work centred on the new Event Centre, and an upgrade of the approach to the boat ramp which has steadily deteriorated over the current event season. These works are programmed to be complete by June.

### World Rowing Championships

The recent Nationals showcased our outstanding rowers, and some first class international talent as well. Both athletes and coaches alike were full of praise for the venue and the course, which bodes well for later this year.

FISA, the World Rowing Federation, has announced a new timetable for this years Champs, meaning 2010 will be the first to feature medal finals on four days rather than the traditional two. Medal finals will be staged every day from the Thursday to the Sunday.

A number of large screens will be installed for spectators, the biggest in NZ (54 sqm, HD screen) was successfully trialled at the Nationals, providing crystal clear viewing from all angles, near and distant. Sky Sport will deliver its biggest ever rowing outside broadcast, with 20 cameras located on or around the lake – that's double the usual number for covering major rowing events at the venue. All 20 cameras will be High Definition. The coverage will be co-ordinated in the HD Outside Broadcast van on site and uplinked via satellite back to Sky's studios at

Mount Wellington. From there, the coverage will be transmitted to domestic viewers in NZ and beamed around the world by satellite to international broadcasters.

The RowBox is now touring New Zealand. Since January, it has visited the Parachute Final in Hamilton, the Rugby Sevens in Wellington, the NZ Ironman in Taupo, the NZ Surf Life Saving Championships in Whakatane and is now in the South Island for a visit to Christchurch, then Twizel for the Maadi Cup.