



Happy New Year to all of you. We hope you have enjoyed some holiday time with family and friends away from your usual routine. It's already shaping up to be a busy year for the

Causeway Alliance as we focus on getting State Highway 16 between Te Atatu and Great North Road raised and widened. We'll provide a round-up of some of our progress in this issue.



Traherne Island reclamation

Along the project eastbound towards the city, intensive ground reclamation is taking place. More than 10,000 wick drains have been planted to help remove sea water from thick mud. The drains – made from plastic and fabric – are planted 10–15 metres deep in marine mud on both sides of the Traherne Island area. They work like elaborate drinking straws and are placed 1.3m apart, draining water from deep underground to help with the consolidation of the layers of marine materials.

A two to three metre layer of fill or drainage-blanket using more than 26,000 truckloads of marble-sized quarry stones, has now been spread on top of the wick drains to help squeeze water out of the mud below – a process that will take up to 12 months. When the results indicate that the ground is stable, construction of new motorway lanes will start on top of it. The drainage blanket is a combination of recycled asphalt and greywacke from Auckland quarries.

Orange lanes over Great North Road

Drivers now have a bright new guide to help direct them safely on State Highway 16 over Great North Road heading towards the city – specialised orange coloured tape to clearly define the temporary lanes.

The brightly coloured orange tape is used on German motorways and has proved to be an effective way to improve safety. The tape helps reduce the risk of an incident, particularly on construction sites where driver attention is focused on additional signage, speed limit changes and altered or narrowed lanes. Risks can be compounded by the 'ghost' or 'shadow' of old markings confusing drivers, especially if there's sun strike, rain or if it's dark.

The specialised tape has been installed by our team on the eastbound approach to the Great North Road Interchange where there are extensive changes to lanes and it's important to keep road users and our workers safe.





Photo: Greg Kempthorne, January 2014.
Looking west from the Great North Road Interchange

New cycleway on the way

The first 400m of the cycleway from Great North Road westbound beside State Highway 16 is now on its final alignment. The cycleway then transitions back to the temporary one. In response to some of your feedback in our recent customer survey, we'll be installing new information signage in the next few weeks illustrating what the completed cycleway will look like in 2016. Thanks for all of your ideas, comments and compliments.



Close to 'home', the monarch butterflies on the swan plants at our Te Atatu base have been busy. This one was spotted drying its wings on a camouflaging concrete barrier before taking flight earlier in the week.



A matata (fernbird) enjoying the summer sun at Harbourview-Orangihina in Te Atatu. Photo by Jeremy Painting, Forest & Bird, Motu Manawa Restoration Group

King tide on Sunday 2 February

An unusually high tide is expected on the morning of Sunday 2 February. Take extra care on State Highway 16, particularly along the causeway section.

More information

nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh16causeway

elizabeth.collins@sh16causeway.co.nz

0800 444 449 (state highways info line)

CAUSEWAY ALLIANCE
working for our **thriving** city

