

September 2020 Update – Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa

Tradesmen at Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa have well and truly started the principle ring foundations of the main building. The Bradfords team have set out the shuttering and construction is now well underway. Paul Summerfield Plumbing have all but completed the installation of drainage within the main building envelope and Harmer Earthmoving have commenced excavations in the solar paddock. “We have never dug hot pools,” Jon Harmer, owner of Harmer Earthmoving, said. “It’s a bit different to a swimming pool, there’s a bit more to it.” Harmers have commenced digging three metres down, leading the charge into the imprint of the exciting network of pools at Methven’s \$15 million Opuke project. He said the work precedes the builders coming in to start laying blocks, building the pools from the bottom up. As well as earthworks for the pools, there is a scenic lake and a complexity of pipework for water supplies, jets, filtration and sewerage to be completed.

Landscaper Dell Phillips is part of the team during these establishment phases. As he contemplates the largest planting project he has ever done, he has more than 3000 plants ready to go. The plantings and landscaping will be set into natural groupings, with consideration given to height and aesthetics, framing, but not covering, the picturesque Southern Alps.

Opuke director James McKenzie said the hot pools construction was well under way, but much of the work was at ground level and below.

“It will be some months before we see things really come up out of the ground because there’s so much in the ground,” he said.

The site’s big concrete pours would not be until mid to late October, for the building first, followed by the hot pools.

Methven contractors, Civil Concrete, made light work of the Plant Shed foundation slab. Totalspan have commenced assembly of the steel-frame building that will house the pool water treatment, filtration and heating controls. Many thanks Josh Horn and team for doing such a superb job.

We will be hosting our next public site tour on October 17th - and will issue further notices closer to the time. We respectfully request that observers stay outside of the fenced work site for their own safety.

At this stage, we are tracking to have the pools open in time for the July school holidays 2021 and will be commencing recruitment early in the New Year.



