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CITY PEOPLE PROFILE: Tim Roxborogh - Not another rock DJ



You've heard his voice over Viva fm's feel good airways. Jocelyn Rein meets the real Tim Roxborogh.

ne of the things that struck me about Tim Roxborogh, host of his own afternoon drive show at Viva fm, is how passionate he is about the city's architecture.

"Auckland is an unbelievably beautiful city with some spectacularly awful buildings. Some of them look like they could have been designed by a five-year-old with a ruler!"

Wellington-born but raised in Kuala Lumpur until age 9 (apparently KL has phenomenal architecture), 24-year-old Roxborogh now lives in an apartment building near Albert Park. Although he is disdainful of a few particular buildings in the Hobson St area (we won't name names), he says he is lucky

HOST TIM ROXBOROGH: Passionate about architecture.

enough to live "in a pretty building, by a pretty park." "One thing I would never

"One thing I would never change about Auckland is its parks. I would hate to lose the green spaces."

Other things he would hate to lose? The city's abundant offering of Thai food outlets.

"T'll eat anything Thai," he says, naming Monsoon Poon and Khow as personal favourites.

"I would be lost without my car."

In radio for seven and a half years now, Roxborogh's love of music has helped him work his way up the ladder since high school when he started doing fillins and some weekend work.

"I gave everything I could to get where I wanted to in radio."

Roxborogh completed a Bachelor of Communication Studies degree at AUT and for the last few years he has had his own drive show and is a member of the Classic Hits music pro-

gramming team. His most i

His most recent star encounter? A casual lunch in Beverly Hills with his old friend Robert Lamb, one of the lead singers from well-known 80s band Chicago.

"He paid for lunch and dropped me home on his way to the dentist."

Somewhere on his agenda is an item on every Kiwi's list — travel.

But after a few American road trips and a thorough exploration of the Indonesian Islands, Roxborogh would like to return to Auckland.

And what comes after that for a guy who gave everything he could to get into radio? TV of course!

"I wouldn't want to be in this position in five years. You can never really go 'right well I've made it in radio.""

Guess some people are just never happy...

must accept economic realities, ignoring communities is danger-

he newspaper of AUT Auckland's CBD is perhaps the University's journalism most ignored, and least under-

University's journalism students, *Te Waha Nui*, is now in its fourth year. It exists for two purposes.

Firstly, as a tool for the next batch of New Zealand journalists. There are names in this paper you will see a lot more of in coming years as we filter into newsrooms around the country. Having an in-house newspaper to cut our teeth on provides invaluable experience.

But its other purpose is to be a bloody good read to our target audience. It's no good telling the news if no one is reading.

And it is with this in mind that this edition of *Te Waha Nui* has evolved. Rather than simply compiling a collection of our news stories into a paper, my production team and I have strived to give you a vibrant, informative and above all, readable, inner city newspaper.

Of all the communities in New Zealand, the population living, working and playing in

stood.

Who are these people that live behind grey walls and up towering buildings? Where were you five years ago, when the population of the CBD was comparatively tiny?

What do you do when you're not working? Are you raising families, walking dogs, painting canvases?

While we don't have all the answers to who you are, we do have the stories that affect you and your community.

No other newspaper in Auckland focuses solely on you – until now.

Take the page 10 article on your representation in Parliament. What is happening down in Wellington to improve our lot up here?

There is a centrespread feature on an Auckland population most would like to ignore – rats. It turns out they're here in force – and are costing us thousands



of dollars each year.

Our look at Auckland's scarfie population on page 15 asks why, with a huge student population, If Dunedin can get its students out of their flats and into its stadium and bars, then why can't we?

our local sports fixtures are

underpatronised?

The all too common problem of drunk 16-year-olds stumbling around dark city streets is tackled on page 11, and an ex-bouncer gives his chilling insights.

Te Waha Nui still continues to take pride in its award-winning coverage of diversity often missed by mainstream media.

We are tackling this project with zest and integrity – not as a means of profit making.

Now, more than any other time in New Zealand, newspapers risk becoming little more than collections of stories that sell adverts.

Some would argue this is already the case, although the newsrooms I have worked in this year were staffed by great journalists who cared about their communities.

But while every business

ous for newspapers. Why does the CBD not have its own paper already? Not because it is economically unviable.

It is more likely due to the difficulty of anyone other than our two major newspaper owners, Fairfax and APN, to compete in an unregulated, duopoly market.

Are you being served adequately by your papers already? If not, the grim reality is the law will have to change before newspapers pop up that are owned, run and understood locally.

We are trying to fill that gap this year, and we'd love to hear from you as to how we're doing. You can email us at wahanui@aut.ac.nz, or write to us at Te Waha Nui, School of Communication Studies, AUT University, Private Bag 92006, Auckland 1142.

Craig Borley