

Playful dolphins added interest to wall



Here's a photograph of a well-known New Plymouth mural that travelled. The photograph appeared in the *Taranaki Daily News* in January 1982 after the mural, which featured four schools of stylised dolphins, had been painted on a wall on the corner of Mangorei Rd and Devon St by well-known artist Michael Smither. It served to give the bland concrete wall some colour but was also a means of protesting against raw sewage being pumped out to sea.

The mural remained on the wall for some time until the building behind was purchased by the New Plymouth RSA, and that organisation wanted a new mural depicting military service by New Zealanders. So the dolphins mural was moved - it was painted on the wall outside the Shell Todd Oil Services headquarters on Devon St west.

That mural remained there until early this year when it was painted over by tradesmen at STOS' instructions. However, a framed tribute to the mural now hangs in the STOS reception area.

