

### 3. AKAROA MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

#### 3.1 VISITORS

Visitor numbers for the first third of the year have been strong, about 11% up on last year. Total visitors for the July - October period were 4,004.

#### 3.2 EXHIBITIONS

**Mystery and Delight** opened on 23 October and is attracting a lot of local interest. Residents are enjoying the opportunity to be reminded of how Akaroa looked 40 years ago. The exhibition received its "official" opening on Saturday 14 November, on the occasion of the Akaroa Civic Trust's AGM, and fortieth birthday party.

Development and production details of **Nga Roimata o Takapunkeke** continue, as we aim to have all aspects of the exhibition in hand before Christmas.

#### 3.3 COLLECTIONS

##### **Temporary storage**

Collections previously housed in the workroom/storeroom have recently been moved to temporary storage to ensure they are safe and secure while our new store is connected to the existing building.

#### 3.4 PROJECTS

##### **Re-roofing of Langlois-Eteveneaux Cottage**

City Care is undertaking the re-roofing of the French Cottage, with old shingles having been removed and some repair work being carried out. Ian Bowman, our conservation architect, is being consulted on details. The cottage is closed to our visitors for the duration of the contract, in the interests of safety. Collections within the building have been protected with dust sheets.

##### **Museum shop re-fit**

Despite some delays, it is still hoped to have new shop shelving installed before Christmas and our busy summer season.

##### **New store**

Good progress is being made on our new store, with the roof having been completed by Show Weekend. An associated job, the re-paving and new ramp to the front of the Museum, has been completed. A formal opening for the building will occur in the early part of 2010.

#### 3.5 OTHER

##### **Okains Bay Museum**

Two Akaroa Museum staff recently attended an event at the Okains Bay Museum, for the opening of a new machinery shed, a talk by Dr Rodney Wilson (retiring Okains Bay Museum board member) and a look behind the scenes at the Maori taonga store. The visit highlighted both the differences in our operations, and the goals we have in common.

##### **"French Akaroa" to be reprinted**

Peter Tremewan is currently finalising the details of his revision of "French Akaroa", first published in 1990, and the definitive history of Akaroa's early years of European settlement. The Museum has been assisting Peter with the provision of photographs for use in the revised edition, due out soon.

#### 3.6 EVENTS

##### **Friends of the Museum**

Christmas function, Gaiety Supper Room,  
Friday 18 December 2009 - 6.30pm.

##### **Friends of the Museum**

Antique Fair, The Gaiety,  
Saturday 2 January 2010.

**30. 11. 2009**

- Takapuneke Historical Reserve** Celebration of Reserve,  
Friday 5 February 2010 - 10am.
- Waitangi Day Commemoration** Onuku Marae,  
Saturday 6 February 2010 - 9am for powhiri.
- Shackleton Lantern Slide Lecture** Akaroa Museum,  
Sunday 7 March 2010 - time to be advised.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Museum Director's update be received.