

**AKAROA/WAIREWA COMMUNITY BOARD**  
**AKAROA MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**AGENDA**

**MONDAY 22 MARCH 2010**

**2.30PM**

**IN THE BOARD ROOM, AKAROA SERVICE CENTRE**  
**78 RUE LAVAUD, AKAROA**

**Committee:**

Pam Richardson - Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board representative  
Jane Chetwynd and Liz Haylock - Friends of the Museum representatives (FOAM)  
Victoria Andrews - Community representative  
Meri Robinson - Onuku Runanga representative  
Stewart Miller - Chairman Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board - ex-officio

**Community Board Adviser**  
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1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **AKAROA MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT – 30 NOVEMBER 2009**
3. **AKAROA MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**
4. **FRIENDS OF AKAROA MUSEUM (FOAM) PRESIDENT'S UPDATE**
5. **COMMUNITY BOARD ADVISER'S UPDATE**
  - 5.1 **New Zealand Historic Places Trust – Proposed Wāhi Tapu**
  - 5.2 **170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Akaroa**
6. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

22. 3. 2010

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 30 NOVEMBER 2009**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 30 November 2009 are **attached** for members' information. The Akaroa Wairewa Community Board received these minutes at its meeting held on 10 March 2010.

### 3. AKAROA MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

#### 3.1 VISITORS

##### **Visitor numbers**

Visitor numbers to mid-year (end of December) were on target and comparable to last year, but the summer months of January and February have shown a slight drop. Visitor total to the end of February 2010 is 11,464 compared to 11,551 for same period last year.

##### **Research enquiries**

As usual during the summer, our front of house staff are dealing with a lot of enquiries with the majority being related to family history. For the three months December – February 148 enquiries have been dealt with, 113 of those being family history.

##### **Opening hours**

Some hours have been lost recently due to the tsunami alert of 28 February and a power outage on 2 March. In both cases the Museum remained closed until early afternoon.

#### 3.2 EXHIBITIONS

##### **Nga Roimata o Takapuneke**

We opened *Nga Roimata o Takapuneke* on Thursday 4 February with a very well-attended event, and a fitting degree of ceremony. Council's support for this exhibition was crucial and appreciated. The Mayor's Office contributed just over \$6,000 toward the costs of the exhibition development and production, while the Community Board granted \$1,000 from its Discretionary Response Fund for an opening reception, organised by the Friends of the Museum.

The Akaroa Civic Trust, Onuku Runanga, and southern regional office of the Historic Places Trust partnered with the Museum to deliver this exhibition, but many others, individuals and institutions, paid and unpaid, contributed to the exhibition in a variety of ways.

Visitors' response to the exhibition has been very positive, with the audio component in particular eliciting quite emotional responses. There is a possibility that the exhibition may get another showing at Our City O-Tautahi in Christchurch, which would mean we get even greater value from it.

##### **Recent Additions to the Collection**

From time to time we like to show visitors the variety of objects that have been added to our collection, so we will mount an exhibition of *Recent Acquisitions* in May running through until July.

##### **Quirky Collections III**

A third in the series of local collectors and their collections will be developed during the winter.

##### **Heritage Week**

We will this year be participating in Heritage Week (22-31 October), showing a selection of maps and charts of the Akaroa Harbour area, fitting well with the theme of Discovery, Settlement and Adventure.

#### 3.3 COLLECTIONS

##### **Accessions**

A highlight of the various items received over the last few months has been the donation of a patchwork blanket made from samples of woollen fabrics from the Akaroa Tweed Factory. This will feature in our Recent Acquisitions exhibition later in the year.

### 3 Cont'd

#### **Loans**

We have recently lent a greenstone pendant in the shape of a fish hook (pounamu hei matau) to the Christchurch Art Gallery. It is displayed in the Mana Whenua room in the new Broughton Light galleries.

#### **Valuations**

Work continues on determining valuations for the collection, with the entire firearms collection having recently been assessed by an independent expert.

#### **Establishing a local contemporary art collection**

Following the Committee's request at its September meeting to investigate a process for the expansion of the Museum's art collection, further work has been undertaken on the establishment of an acquisitions committee and its terms of reference.

### 3.4 PROJECTS

#### **Storage Building**

Our new building was opened formally by Councillor Claudia Reid on Friday 19 February at an event well attended by the Friends of the Museum, and those associated with the project. We are waiting for the internal environment to settle, while monitoring the air conditioning systems, before moving collections into the building.

#### **Improvements to shop/foyer**

New shop shelving was installed before Christmas, with the remaining half of the foyer (reception area) to be tackled when the summer rush has abated.

### 3.5 OTHER

#### **Shackleton Lecture**

Geoff Selley's lecture on Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition on Sunday 7 March was very well attended by almost 150 people. Mr Selley delivered a lecture illustrated with lantern slides first delivered by Leonard Hussey, a member of the expedition, in 1917. The venue for the lecture was The Gaiety, which we had decided to use instead of the Museum, anticipating a high level of interest. This event was organised by the Antarctic Heritage Trust, with assistance from the Akaroa Museum.

#### **Tsunami alert**

The tsunami alert in the early morning of Sunday 28 March saw staff heading for the Customs House (close to Daly's Wharf) to shift objects onto benches and tables out of reach of a predicted wave. Civil Defence officials had advised that businesses in the centre of town should close, so the Museum remained shut until 1.30pm, when the risk was considered to be lower. High tide later in the afternoon passed without incident.

### 3.6 UPCOMING EVENTS

Guided tours of St Peter's Church	-	Sunday 21 and 28 March, 2pm Sunday 4 April, 2 pm
Exhibitions:		
Recent Acquisitions	-	May - July
Quirky collections III	-	August - October
Discovering the Harbour	-	October - December
Heritage Week	-	Friday 22 - Sunday 31 October

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Museum Director's update be received.

#### **4. FRIENDS OF AKAROA MUSEUM - PRESIDENT'S UPDATE**

##### **4.1 FUND RAISING**

The annual Antiques Fair was held on Saturday 2 January 2010 at the Gaiety and was the most successful ever by raising over \$2,400 which was up 20 per cent on last year.

##### **4.2 EXHIBITION OPENING**

The Friends were able to support the Museum staff at the two events associated with the exhibition on Takapuneke, first the return of the Mere and secondly, the opening of the exhibition itself in February. These were both moving and highly significant events. The Friends were grateful to the Museum Advisory Committee (through the Akaroa-Wairewa Community Board) for providing funding for the catering at the opening ceremony. Congratulations are due to the multifaceted team who put together such an excellent exhibition.

##### **4.3 COMPLETION OF NEW STORAGE BUILDING**

The Friends were delighted to witness the completion of the new storage facility for the Museum in February. We have long hoped to see the Museum enhanced in this way and offer our considerable thanks to the Christchurch City Council for funding the new building and for the expertise of their management staff who oversaw its construction. We also much appreciated the support of the Canterbury Community Trust for their significant grant. However, none of it would have been possible without the oversight and initiative of Lynda Wallace the Museum Director. The Akaroa community, represented by the Friends, are especially grateful for all she has done to achieve such an attractive and functional extension to our Museum.

##### **4.4 ONGOING PROJECTS**

Work on other key projects, such as the oral history project, ground maintenance, the art collection, etc is ongoing.

##### **4.5 HISTORIC MONUMENTS AND PUBLIC ITEMS AROUND AKAROA**

The Friends continue to have concerns about the condition and maintenance of various public items of historic interest in Akaroa whose ownership appears not yet to be resolved since amalgamation with the City. They have a watching brief on these items.

Jane Chetwynd, President.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Friends of Akaroa Museum, President's update be received.

**5. COMMUNITY BOARD ADVISER'S UPDATE**

**5.1 NEW ZEALAND HISTORIC PLACES TRUST – PROPOSED WĀHI TAPU**

**Attached** is a letter and information received by the Akaroa-Wairewa Community Board, containing details of a proposal to register Ōteauheke (Brasenose) as a Wāhi Tapu.

The Community Board has asked the Museum Committee to consider the details of the proposal and provide any comments from members to the Board, for it to take into consideration when deciding whether it will make a submission on this proposal.

**5.2 170<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY - AKAROA**

A verbal update on this project will be given at the meeting.

22. 3. 2010

**6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**