

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.