

# Museum@Te Ahu

Museum Newsletter

ISSUE NUMBER 1: MAY 2018

MUSEUM OPENING SUMMER HOURS

MONDAY— FRIDAY 8.30AM—4.30PM

Cnr South Rd & Matthews Ave, KAITAIA



## Who are we

Kia ora, I am Whina Te Whiu the Museum Curator and have been here since September last year. I am privileged to have working alongside me, Maraea Brodrick as the Museum Assistant. We are both passionate about the museum and have many years experience working in this sector across the country. We have both returned to the Far North to contribute our skills and abilities to our wider community. We welcome you to come in and visit us at your museum.

In writing our first newsletter, we wish to acknowledge Phil Cross who passed away last year and museum stalwart John Osborne more recently. Both men put in so much effort and time and we will miss them dearly. Haere atu ra nga rangatira ki te Atua runga rawa.

## The Museum Trust

In February 2018, the museum trust held an AGM which saw a number of new trustees welcomed on board including Russell Shackleton, Dave Russell and Sarah Wale. They will join Bronwyn Bauer-Hunt, David Senior, BJ Natanahira, Awhina Murupaenga and Sean Stratton. We look forward to the value they will add to the museum.

We are pleased to be going forward with a new name, 'Museum @ Te Ahu' and with new people that we are all really excited about the museum's future.

## What's in a name...

We have a number of exciting plans for the ongoing development and enhancement of the Museum.

Finding a suitable name for the Museum was identified as an important issue. Over the years it has been known by many different names which had become confusing.

Three names were shortlisted and it was decided to ask the public to choose.

After two weeks of voting. The winning name for the museum is Museum @ Te Ahu.

Many thanks to everyone who participated.

## Small changes can make a huge difference ...

### Koha versus admission fees

Museums often see their potential visitors as falling into one category or the other – it's the free admission model or the market-value model.

The "koha/donation" or "pay as you will" model of admissions has a lot of advantages.

Visitors are placed in the driver's seat when the museum asks for a koha\donation . How much they choose to put in the donation box will be influenced by their experience of the museum, their interaction with friendly and knowledgeable museum staff and their interest in the content and narratives the museum presents.

For the months of March, April and May we will be asking all adult admissions to make a koha donation.

### Volunteers return

We are delighted to welcome the return of five volunteers to the museum. Each volunteer brings their own special talents, flair and passions contributing to the overall Museum @ Te Ahu experience. We appreciate the time and energy our volunteers put into our museum, a huge Thank You to you ALL!

### We Want You!

We are looking for more volunteers to do a couple of hours a week greeting and hosting visitors , sharing unique Far North stories relating to the museum collections on display.

If you are keen to support the museum, please drop on by or give us a call or email.

**Phone:** (09) 4089 457

**Email:** curator@teahu.org.nz

### Te Tiriti in Kaitaia

A new display describes some of the key people involved at the signing of the te Tiriti\ Treaty in Kaitaia which took place on the 28th April 1840. Highlights from the display is a hei tiki pounamu (greenstone tiki) thought to belonged to Te Rarawa chief Pana Kareao who influenced other chiefs in the area to sign the Treaty; and a bible, pocket watch and inkwell from the Matthews Family Collection. This new display will be up until the end of May 2018.

## ANZAC DISPLAY

Anzac @ Te Ahu: We remember those who have served in war and conflict, this year's display we focus on WW1 soldiers from the Kaitaia\Mangonui district. Over 200 fathers, sons and brothers left the far north to train in Auckland or Wellington, then went off to war on ships.

Thank you to the students of Kaitaia College who provided all the research of the soldiers.

Tu tonu te mahara ki a ratou nga hoia, nga tama tu! Tama Toa!

