



Kia ora, Hello

With the summer holidays underway, it is exciting to see visitor numbers on the increase, with more Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas travellers enjoying what they often describe as one of the best small museums they've visited.

In this email newsletter, we review another successful event at the museum and have an important message regarding Waitangi Day 2023.

Okains Museum open Wednesday - Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm.

Christmas at the Museum 2022

The 'Most Popular Tree' Results Revealed

Fourteen beautiful displays transformed the museum spaces for our second 'Christmas at the Museum' exhibition.

Some of our more competitive tree designers were keen to know the result of the public voting for the most popular tree. Even though we loved every display (and suspect rigged voting), here are the voting results.

'The Beach' Christmas Tree by Isobel Primmer was an early favourite. **'Jingle Shells Ruru Ngenge'** by Okains Bay School was one of the biggest collaborations, featuring shells collected by students and painted by students from other schools.

'A Traditional Christmas' by St John's Church beautifully brought to life a colonial Christmas and featured the exquisite handiwork of Carol Fletcher.

'Sailor's Treasures' by the Okains Bay Museum Visitor Hosts went for the sympathy vote with their glamorous installation in the sailor's cabin.

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Te Rākau Kirihimete o Mua' by Archives NZ and Ngāi Tahu Archive

Our museum colleagues at Canterbury Museum and Air Force Museum wowed us with trees based on their collections and work, with **'Canterbury Museum Decant'** and **'The Plane Tree'**.

'Tūrangawaewae Revisted' by Ali Riley, Napat Chutrchaivech & Roslyn McLean was a beautiful rework of a tree from the 2021 event, and third place in the popularity stakes.

'Natures Treasures' by Dianne Wilson, **'Pioneer Christmas'** by Janet McArthur, Wendy Riley, Janice Donaldson, Sandra Thomas and Lynn Faulker, and **'Gingerbread Christmas'** by Violet Blay and Vicki Morris-Williamson tied for second place with three stunning and very different trees.



Thank you to all who helped to set up, decorate, light, support, entertain, and pack down. A special thank you to each decorating team, **Christchurch Creative**

Communities, Light Site, Akaroa Mail and **Showbiz Christchurch**, and the jolly red man (Nigel Hampton) and his many helpers!

And the winner of the most popular tree display for 2022 was **'Te Rākau Kirihimete o Mua'** by **Archives NZ and Ngāi Tahu Archives** featuring archive materials repurposed into stunning Christmas decorations.

Okains Bay Connectivity Update

Mobile service came to the Bay in time for Christmas 2022. We are grateful to the Rural Connectivity team who worked hard to make this happen.

At the museum, some of our team have full mobile connectivity, while others can only send and receive texts. Nonetheless, it has been a welcome improvement.

Waitangi Weekend Update

No planned event for 2023 | Free entry on Waitangi Day

Waitangi Day commemorations at Okains Bay began in 1976 and have grown to become an iconic event on the local and national calendar. This community-run and much-loved event has evolved over the years and will continue to do so.

In 2022 Covid-19 intervened leading to our commemorations being cancelled and a smaller Family Fun Day, with restricted numbers, being hosted by the museum instead. This year, Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata is not available to co-host as they are concentrating their efforts and resources on the upcoming centenary of their whare tipuna (meeting house) Tūtehuarewa. So, there will not be a Waitangi Day Commemoration at Okains Bay in 2023.

While the museum team had hoped to run a Family Fun Day instead, a decision was made just before Christmas not to proceed. The event had proven too difficult for our small team to organise due to under-resourcing, Covid-related event burnout, and the fact that key staff and volunteers will be away on Waitangi Day.

However, the museum will be open and welcoming visitors throughout Waitangi weekend. As a special incentive to visitors, we are offering free entry to the museum on Waitangi Day itself. We look forward to hosting an event again on Waitangi Day in 2024.

Support the Museum's Work

 <p>\$24 1 x DRY CLEANING SPONGE. Cleans surfaces, such as delicate fabrics, without getting them wet.</p>	 <p>\$43 1 SMALL GARMENT STORAGE BOX.</p>	 <p>\$65 COLLECTION CARE SAFETY EQUIPMENT. Allows collection care volunteers to clean items and be protected from dust and mould.</p>	 <p>\$87 1 SET OF HAKE CLEANING BRUSHES</p>
 <p>\$179 PAYS FOR A VISITOR HOST FOR A DAY.</p>	 <p>\$459 1 BACKPACK VACUUM FOR COLLECTION CLEANING.</p>	 <p>\$680 MAINTAINS THE GROUNDS FOR A WEEK.</p>	 <p>\$1038 OPERATES THE MUSEUM FOR A DAY.</p>

1. [Choose the work](#) or supplies you would like to support from [our website page](#) and make your donation through online banking.
 2. Make a one-off or regular donation from our [Givealittle page](#) using your credit/debit card.
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Okains Bay Museum

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