



Kia ora, Hello

The competition is on! Okains Bay's 'Christmas at the Museum' opened on Saturday 3 December with a community event so spirited, even the voting got rigged.

But fear not, festive fanatics! We're doubling the fun with two elections:

1. **Community Choice:** Okains Bay residents, your votes on launch day still have power!
2. **General Public's Favourite:** Let the outside world weigh in. We're controlling the voting buttons, but your enthusiasm (and sizable bribes) might sway the vote.

Now, onto the dazzling displays:





- **Te Pāti Putiputi:** Ngāi Tahu Archive & Archives NZ hoping for a landslide post-election with a tree that bursts with colour and hope.
- **Wairewa Rākau Kirihimete:** Little River Wairewa Community Trust celebrates their vibrant gateway to Banks Peninsula.
- **Te Whetū Kirihimete - Christmas Stars:** Wananga weavers weave magic inspired by lessons learned and friendships formed.
- **Historic Okains:** Underground Overground Archaeology goes local with historical tidbits from Okains Bay and Banks Peninsula.
- **Ngaio's Christmas Tree:** Step into the mysteries of Dame Ngaio Marsh - inspired creation by Ngaio Marsh House & Heritage Trust.
- **Upcycled Cinderella:** Okains Bay Museum channels founder Murray Thacker's spirit with a recycled masterpiece, plus the return of **Bauble Bath**.
- **Pacific Ebb & Flow:** Wind and waves transform beach treasures into coastal Christmas magic.
- **Tiakitanga Pūtaiao Aotearoa:** Biosecurity NZ gets interactive, reminding us to keep pests and diseases at bay.
- **Flor de Nochebuena:** Embrace Mexican tradition with a Poinsettia Christmas.
- **5 Ways to Wellbeing:** Step Ahead showcases their commitment to well-being through member-created decorations.
- **Bonus Beauties:** Don't miss Nigel Intemann's Paracord **Challenge Accepted**, Di Wilson's **Harikoa Tree**, and Raukohe, Henry, and Jackson's **Marble Run**.

With 14 displays bursting with festive cheer, this "Christmas at the Museum" is anything but ordinary. So grab your vote (and maybe a bribe), and join the fun!





'Stop the Leaks' update

Okains Bay Museum's leaky spouting is fixed, the Harris Cottage gets a facelift, and the Mana Taonga project gets a boost thanks to generous grants!

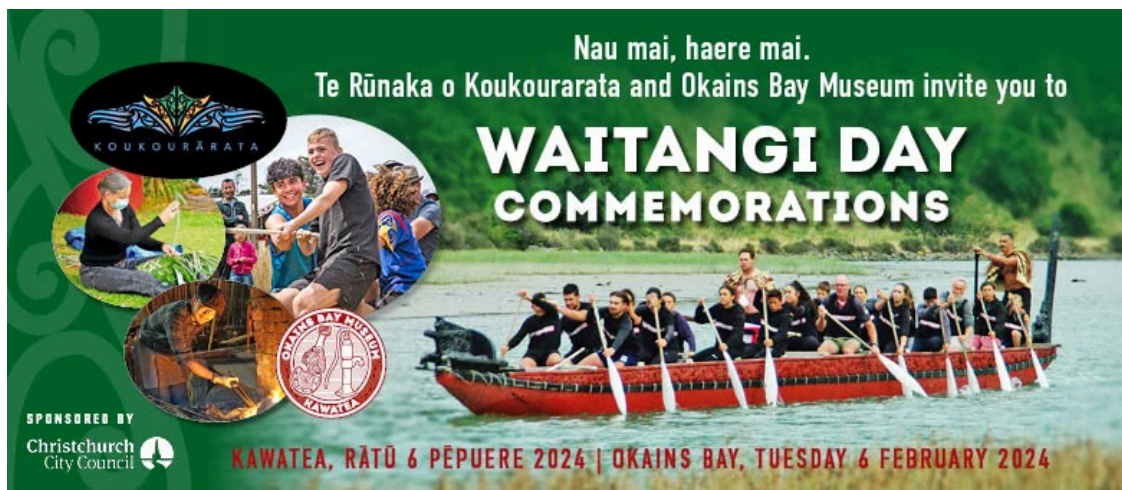
Due to the success of the 'Stop the Leaks' crowdfunding campaign, we've accomplished significant repairs and deferred maintenance, replacing all spouting, addressing courtyard flooding with a newly installed pump, and enhancing the weatherproofing of our buildings.

The momentum continues with support from the **Parkinson Memorial Park Trust**, which has granted funds for the restoration of the Harris Cottage. This building carries collections and stories of early Okains Bay families.

Additionally, the **Stout Trust** has generously contributed half the funds required for the **Mana Taonga project**. This initiative aims to enhance the taonga Māori collection through activities like information gathering, provenance research, cataloging, and condition reports. It will assist Te Rūnangao Koukourarata in exercising tāngata tiaki responsibilities and allow the Museum to make appropriate decisions, with information from whānau, hapū and iwi associated with the taonga Māori.

Support from the **Rātā Foundation**, **Christchurch City Council's Strengthening Communities fund**, the **Te Papa Museum Hardship fund**, and the **Community Organisation Grants Scheme (COGS)** has played a crucial role in sustaining our staff.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to these organisations and individuals for their ongoing financial generosity. Thank you.



Waitangi Day Commemorations 2024 - Free Entry

After two years of COVID-19-enforced cancellations, the return of Waitangi Day Commemorations to Kawatea Okains Bay in 2024 is much anticipated, with visitors from as far away as the UK signaling their intention to attend.

The Museum is working in partnership with Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata to make the day as accessible and family-friendly as possible. Thanks to support from Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Christchurch City Council Events & Festivals, Waitangi Day Commemorations on Tuesday 6 February 2024 will be a free event for all.

The day's events will be focussed on the Museum grounds and the Ngāi Tahu Reserve opposite, where the pōwhiri, hāngī and waka landing will take place.

Even though it will be a free entry event, the Museum still needs to raise much-needed funds. To do this, we will be running koha and ticketed 'side shows' throughout the day. Cafe food, ice creams and coffee will also be available on-site, and at the Bay's historic store nearby.

Families are invited to bring a picnic and spend the day commemorating the bicultural aspirations of the signatories of Te Tiriti, learning about the Ngāi Tahu Treaty story, and enjoying loads of family-friendly games, activities and displays.

Interested in Volunteering to help on the day? [Register here.](#)

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi

With your basket and my basket, the people will live

Okains Bay Museum

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