



ABOVE: The Navy Museum Staff presented, Rear Admiral Ledson a personalised photo album. Staff grouped for a photo at the farewell morning tea. Photo taken by: LT Tim Gore.



ABOVE: River Plate Veteran Vince McGlown talks to Deputy Director Cliff Heywood.



ABOVE: CPOCH McNeil teaching children from the Navy Museum's Holiday Programme how to make Easter Treats.

INTRODUCTION

This month we said farewell to Rear Admiral David Ledson as Chairman of the Navy Museum Board of Trustees. Admiral Ledson's commitment and passion for our naval heritage has been a major influence in the reinvigoration of the Navy Museum both as an institution and as a place of story telling. Admiral Ledson has also been the principal driver in getting the new Museum project up and running. Without his drive and enthusiasm for the project we would not be as far advanced as we are today.

The team at the Navy Museum wish to thank Admiral Ledson for his extremely important contribution to the Museum and to wish him and his wife Barbara all the very best for the coming years.

At the same time we welcome Rear Admiral Tony Parr as the new Chief of Navy and Chairman of the Navy Museum Board of Trustees. Rear Admiral Parr has previously been involved in the Museum during his time as the Deputy Chief of Navy and Executive Trustee on the Board of Trustees. The team at the Museum are looking forward to working with Admiral Parr during this very exciting time in the development of the Navy Museum.

Museum Redevelopment

In terms of the Museum redevelopment project, the Outline Plan of Works was lodged with the North Shore City Council on 4 May. Under the Resource Management Act the Council now have 20 days to consider the Outline Plan of Works and to propose to us any changes to the plans that they might consider necessary.

The application for Building Consent was also lodged with the North Shore City Council on 6 May 09. The length of time it takes for Council to approve the Building Consent is uncertain however OPUS will work closely with the Council Officers to address any issues they might have and hopefully the Building Consent will be approved quickly.

Expressions of Interest from potential Contractors interested in undertaking the redevelopment of the Navy Museum project were invited in mid April. The closing date for submitting an expression of interest is 10 May. It is understood that considerable interest in the project is being shown by a large number of Contractors.

The White Ensign

Edition 7 of the Navy Museum heritage Journal "The White Ensign" has been published. Copies of the White Ensign are available from the Museum for those that don't get one mailed to you.

Community Presentations

The Museum team have been busy providing presentations to a large number of community groups all over the Auckland region on the Navy Museum and Museum redevelopment project. In the last 3 weeks we have delivered 10 presentations to a wide variety of groups including Rotary, Probus and U3A groups as far a field as Waiuku in the South and Whangaparaoa in the North.



ABOVE: POCH Garret shows the Holiday Programme children the technique for pouring the batter into the cupcake moulds.



ABOVE: Filming for a documentary in the closed off gallery during ANZAC weekend by James Storrie, Dave Moran and Keith Gordon.



ABOVE: Russ Glackin, a part-time guide for the Navy Museum for over six years shares his passion for the Navy with a tour group of the Naval Base.



ABOVE: Temporary ANZAC display in the Navy Museum.



ABOVE: ANZAC display at Belmont Intermediate.

These presentations have been a valuable way of us spreading the word in respect of the Navy Museum and our redevelopment plans. The presentations have been really well received and the feedback from the groups has been extremely positive and supportive. We are booked out for the next two months.

School Holiday Programme

Our team Leader Guide Debbie McKinney ran a very successful school holiday programme during April. The programme was themed “Ship Shape and Ashore”

As this was the Easter School Holidays, Debbie incorporated Easter into the programme. Blowing eggs, making egg baskets an egg hunt around the Navy Museum, dressing up in uniform, making a photo frame with their picture in it, and making polystyrene ships were just some of the activities on offer.

We were lucky enough to work with two talented Navy Chef’s (CPOCH McNeil and POCH Garrett) at the Cookery School. The children had the opportunity to make Nested Cupcakes, which was a great hit.

The holiday programme was open to Navy and local children with a total of 69 children participating over the 6 days. 48% of the children who attended were from navy families with one child traveling from as far as Takanini to attend. Well done Debbie.

Partnering with our Local Community

The Navy Museum supported Devonport Library’s evening ANZAC event by providing artefacts for their two week ANZAC display in the library itself. Poet Kevin Ireland read his poem “Anzac Day, Devonport.” Weaving a story out of nothing storyteller Stu Duvall performed “Galloping to Gallipoli”. The Navy Museum artefacts provided the tangible part to this evening and allowed children a chance to try on helmets and hats.

Teaching Naval values to our Children

When children at the local Intermediate School, Belmont Intermediate, returned to school after their Easter Break they found an eye catching display in their foyer. Large print photos told a little of the story of ANZAC and a “please touch” display of artefacts allowed students the chance to engage with real objects. Lucy Naylor Associate Principal reported back that the foyer was full at each break and the display was pitched at just the right level to hold the students interest. In addition the story of Sailor Bob Marchioni who died serving his country in Korea was available for students to read and take away-they did.

REDEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The main activities to be undertaken over the next month or so to redevelop the new Museum include:

Museum Building

Developed design will continue. This work will see all the non building consent design details completed for final tender documentation.

The expressions of interest from potential construction contractors closes 10 May after which a comprehensive evaluation process will take place to select the preferred contractor team that will be invited to tender for the work.

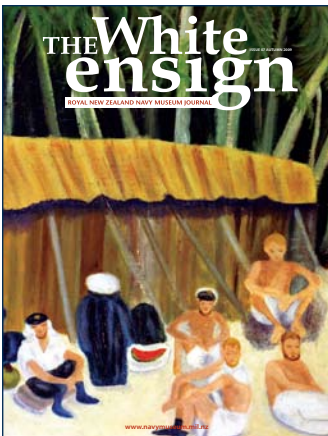
The Schedule of Quantities for the project is being prepared by the Quantity Surveyor and should be completed by 18 May. This is a very important component of the project as it is a final check that the project is within budget before we go to tender. The Schedule of Quantities also makes it much easier for the Contractors to tender for the work and for the evaluation team to assess the tenders once they have been received.



ABOVE: ASCS Dean Jane is helping out the Navy Museum and trying a variation to his normal uniform.



ABOVE: A collaborative Navy Museum and Devonport Library ANZAC display.



REDEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES CONTINUED.

The plan is to then to call tenders on 20 May with a closing date of 10 June. That will certainly be a very exciting but nervous day in the life of the project.

We still have to resolve the issue of colour on the Building as we were a bit delayed painting the seven different shades of grey as test colours on the building. We will have the test colours on the building by 15 May and then let the debate begin.

Exhibition

This month we will continue to focus on developing the design of the exhibition. We will continue to develop the stories in support of the conceptual framework as well as continuing the search through the collection for objects, photographs and ephemera to support the stories.

The exhibition Graphic Designers, Nick and Hannah from the Letter Q, presented their first cut at the design style for the exhibition and overall we were very impressed. Nick and Hannah will spend the next few weeks further developing and refining the style for us to review later in the month.

OTHER ACTIVITIES - This coming month

Sounds Historical Radio Programme

I mentioned last month to stay on the lookout for times when the Museum is being featured on Jim Mora's National Radio Programme "Sounds Historical". I understand the programme is running a little behind schedule so might still be a month or so away from going to air.

FEEDBACK

We like to keep you informed of progress on our new museum and if you know of any one else who would also like to receive this newsletter, let us know by email. If you have any other feedback please let us know, it would be great to hear from you.
email: david.wright@nzdf.mil.nz