# **ROTORUA MUSEUM**

where great stories begin...

## Centennial Project June 2008 Update

## From the Director

It is hard to believe that it has been six months since we began the North Wing extension. The development is progressing rapidly and it wont be long until the tiles go on to the roof. The details can now be seen with many of the windows and doors in place.

One special detail that will be added is the reinstatement of the ridge cap tiles across the roof line. The ridge cap tiles were part of the original building, but the tiles deteriorated over time and were never replaced. This seemingly small detail greatly added to the character of the building so I am excited about seeing them return after a long absence. The North facing gables, delicately removed earlier in the construction process, have successfully been reattached to the new façade.

In our centenary year it is very satisfying to see this project come to fruition. As detailed in the enclosed brochure we have a number of events planned to celebrate the centenary of the building. The date of the official opening was August 13th 1908 and we are staging events from now through until November to celebrate.

The centenary of the building is not only being celebrated locally, but is receiving international recognition in the Museum community. In November Rotorua is hosting the Intercom Conference (International Committee of Museum Management). This is the first time the conference has been held in the Southern Hemisphere and is being timed to coincide with the opening of the North Wing and Rotorua Trust Gallery.

The opening exhibition has being curated specifically for the new gallery and is a topic of great importance to every Rotorua resident.

FreshWater/WaiMāori is an exhibition that celebrates water. Now more than ever we know that water cannot be taken for granted. The exhibition includes works by artists including Picasso, Frances Hodgkins, Bill Culbert and Ralph Hotere, and by photographers such as Rotorua's Edward Payton. Please keep 28th November free in your diary so you can be part of the celebrations.

Kind Regards

Greg McManus Director





#### Friends of Rotorua Museum Have you returned your friends membership forms to us?

All Business Supporters receive memberships to the Friends of Rotorua Museum. The Friends stage a range of events and activities, many of which are exclusive to Friends members.

If you have not received your membership forms or if you are unsure if you're a member, please advise Catherine Donovan at Rotorua Museum.



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#### The Bath House Pump Room The guintessential function venue.

We would like to share our beautiful venue with you. The foyer of the Bath House is called the Pump Room. This stunning venue is available for company functions or events. You can hire the lower or upper foyer for pre-dinner drinks, a cocktail function, or a seated dinner.

#### Mid Winter Venue Hire Special

Exclusive to Rotorua Museum Business Supporters

Lower foyer	\$450 + GST
Seated dinner up to 60 people	
Cocktails for up to 150 people	
Upper foyer	\$ 450 + GST
Seated dinner up to 90 people	
Cocktails for up to 150 people	
Upper and Lower Foyer	\$800 + GST

Buffet menus start at \$40pp.

Rotorua Museum business supporters get a further discount on venue hire. Foundation, Corporate and Project Partners receive one free use of the venue each year. Silver level supporters receive a 50% discount and Bronze level supporters receive a 25% discount.

The above prices are for venue hire only. An hourly security charge applies for all bookings. Offer valid until September 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.

**Please note:** The Museum's function policy allows for corporate and business related functions only. No private parties or weddings are permitted in the Pump Room. Wohlmann's Café is available for private functions.

### **Centennial Celebrations**

The Rotorua Bath House is now in its 100<sup>th</sup> year and to celebrate Rotorua Museum is holding a series of centenary events.

The building contract was completed on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1908. The official opening took place 2 1/2 months later on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Prime Minister Sir Joseph Ward opened the Bath House in a grand ceremony timed to coincide with a visit by Rear Admiral Sperry of the American Great White Fleet and 200 of his servicemen.

The centenary events begin with a lecture series about the Bath House building and feature lectures from a range of guests including Heritage Architect Jeremy Salmond, former directors of the Museum and Dr John Petrie, a rheumatologist who will link current day uses of thermal waters with the treatments once used at the Bath House.

A highlight for many locals will be the exhibition about Tudor Towers,



the restaurant, cabaret and night club that occupied the upper foyer from the late 1960s. In a unique and challenging relationship the tenancy of the building was shared for two (often outrageous) decades between a museum, art galley and night club. The exhibition will be on long term display from July 5<sup>th</sup>.

These events along with other centenary events are featured in the centenary programme. If you would like additional copies of the programme for your work place please contact Catherine Donovan at Rotorua Museum.



