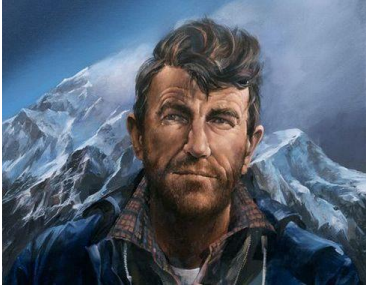


## Newsletter Three – February 2019

### Welcome from the Chair



*Sir Edmund Hillary, Craig Rose*

It is very exciting to start 2019 with three new trustees. As this is the year we will celebrate the centenary of Sir Ed's birth, the skills and talents of Kathryn, Connie and Tim – as below - will be very welcome.

[Kathryn Harvey](#)    [Connie Miller](#)    [Tim Woolfield](#)

This centenary on 20 July will be a key focus this year, along with strengthening our Student Leader and Seniors [Visiting Programme](#).

We are currently seeking ideas from schools or businesses about ways they might celebrate this centenary, including having creative ideas for using [Hillary Bricks](#). There are many potential uses for the bricks – special awards for leadership, art projects, inserted in a garden or landscaping initiatives, etc. If your school or business would like to buy some bricks, please email us: [info@hillaryhouse.nz](mailto:info@hillaryhouse.nz)

### Chilean visitors feel Sir Ed's presence



*Chair of our Trust, Robin Houliker, along with senior management of SEHC welcome our visitors from Chile*

Inspiration for a Chilean teacher of English to 'incorporate mountain lore into a learning programme next year and get students out tramping and understanding their environment', arose from a visit to Hillary House.

Twenty Chilean teachers of English visited the House in late November as part of an English language teaching professional development visit to Aotearoa New Zealand schools. They had the opportunity to learn about the journey of the House, our role in continuing [Sir Ed's vision](#) and to feel Sir Ed's presence.

The teachers came from an area in Chile called Araucania which is quite mountainous in parts. They commented that it had been inspirational to be so close to Sir Ed and to witness how the Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate (SEHC) was connecting the House and his life with learning.

The teachers were in New Zealand as part of the *English Opens Doors* programme based in Hamilton at the [University of Waikato's Pathways College](#).



Mike Dawson, left, with Mele Fetu'u, centre and Lana Kiddie-Vai, right  
Photo credit: Newshub

## Antarctica trip inspires Lana

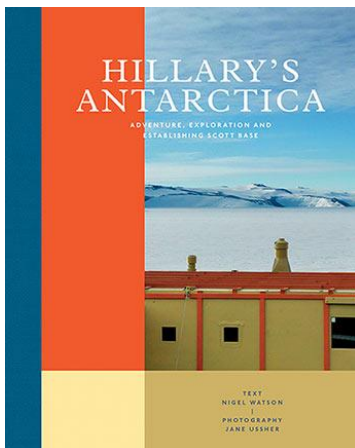
Lana Kiddie-Vai says she is 'super excited, but at the same scared and anxious' about heading off to Antarctica next month. The Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate (SEHC) Year 13 student, along with SEHC student Mele Fetu'u, will join ten other young leaders aged 18-30 years.

Their selection has arisen from a new partnership between the Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate and the Antarctic Heritage Trust. They join the Inspiring Explorers' Expedition to Antarctica in March, with Olympic kayaker Mike Dawson, who they met at the House last year.

Lana's preparations have included working hard to raise \$500 as her contribution to the trip expenses, as well as team building exercises, kayaking lessons and sea kayaking around the inner Waitemata Harbour as part of the training. At first the media attention seemed daunting, but after interviews, including Niu FM radio and Newshub TV, Lana is now handling the media with aplomb.

This opportunity to build their leadership skills reflects the vision in [establishing Hillary House](#) at Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate, to offer wider opportunities for young people to become explorers and give back to others. The Hillary House Leadership Centre Trust extends our very best wishes for a most inspirational experience.

[Click for video](#)  
[www.aht.org.nz](http://www.aht.org.nz)



## Hillary's Antarctica ...

Released last November, this is the first book to fully document and celebrate the contribution Sir Edmund Hillary and the New Zealand team made to Antarctic history, and the legacy they left behind. *HILLARY'S ANTARCTICA* by Nigel Watson, Executive Director of the Antarctic Heritage Trust, and is illustrated with Jane Ussher's stunning photographs featuring historic images and never-before-seen ephemera.

### ... Refer a friend and WIN

Do you know someone who may be interested to learn about the vision for Hillary House Leadership Centre and receive our quarterly e-news? Click the link below to give us their details, and we will enter your name in a draw to receive a personal copy of *HILLARY'S ANTARCTICA*, thanks to the publishers Allen & Unwin.

[HILLARY'S ANTARCTICA book draw](#)



Jackson Wilcox (left) and Tremayne Moana

## Rising Foundation success stories

Some of The Rising Foundation students who have recently [visited Hillary House](#) have overcome many obstacles to get to where they are today. Jackson Wilcox started the programme as a Year 8 student. He always achieved well academically and musically, participating in Tangata Pasifika Beats and the National Ukulele Squad, but still had a longing within himself for his character to develop.

A real turning point for Jackson has been his journey of self-discovery. This has given Jackson a stronger, more positive relationship with his family and his peers, leading him to become one of the Head Boys at Pukekohe High School.

Saia Tai was another student visitor to Hillary House last year. At the Rising Foundation meetings he rarely spoke and was afraid people would judge him about his way of thinking, as he was mature compared to others. Through the programme Saia has discovered a new passion for science and more confidence. Today he is the Cultural Prefect at Pukekohe High School. He is now 'one of our most lively, spirited individuals to whom peers look for advice and guidance', says Co-ordinator of the Rising Foundation programme, Feleti Lotulelei.

'How true is the statement... it takes a village to raise a child', continues Feleti. 'Our students are fortunate to receive additional support and opportunities from great organisations, especially those that have arisen from Sir Edmund Hillary and his legacy. Whether it is from Hillary House Leadership Centre Trust accommodating our meetings, the camps at the Hillary Outdoors Education Centre in Tongariro, or seeing one of the students, Mele Fetu'u, selected for the Inspiring Explorers' trip to Argentina and Antarctica.

The Hillary House Leadership Centre Trust is proud of the achievements of the students, in these partnerships that are motivated by Sir Edmund Hillary.

[www.risingfoundation.org.nz](http://www.risingfoundation.org.nz)

As we look back on 2018 and see in our stories the benefits for young people deriving from these partnerships, the Trust is excited about going forward. With the appointment of our new trustees we are gearing up to grow our partnerships with organisations focused on Sir Ed, along with businesses who may wish to support [our vision](#). We look forward to welcoming more visitors and young people to Hillary House Leadership Centre this year.

Nga mihi

*Robin*

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