

Hillary House Leadership Centre

Newsletter One - April 2018



Meeting Irene, (left) who looked after Sir Ed on his flight home to New Zealand after conquering Everest

Welcome from the Chair

It is a great honour and huge responsibility to have taken on the role of Chair of the Hillary House Leadership Centre Trust, after the vision and stewardship of Gail Thomson. Over the past seven years Gail has led the whole campaign to re-site Sir Edmund Hillary's home from Remuera to its new foundations at Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate School (SEHC) where it is now open as a house of heritage and place of leadership development.

My goal, since October 2017, has been to build the profile of Hillary House, including starting to bring school leaders to visit and consider aspects of leadership in these rooms where Sir Ed planned so many of his expeditions and projects. Our School Visiting Programme is dovetailed with a focus on our senior citizens, and we have been pleased to have had many guests from several retirement villages and organisations in recent months.

Our most important focus continues to be seeking the funding which will enable us to contract programme leadership and coordination to support the work of the volunteer trustees. To this end, I have been connecting and presenting to many businesses, Rotary groups, potential funding streams and banging the gong wherever I can.

Another important focus is branding, including the establishment of a website and the development of a logo. It is rewarding that this is now well underway, and it will be exciting to share this with you in our next newsletter, when we will profile the wonderful IT experts who are supporting us. In the meantime, please share this newsletter as far and as widely as you can.

Taking on the role of Chair builds even more enthusiasm on my part to share the journey of Hillary House and, in doing so, to highlight Sir Ed's achievements. At every presentation I do, I am blown away that there are always people who have a personal link, story or photo about Sir Ed and his connection to them, which they have always treasured.

We look forward to sharing more of these stories in future – such memories are the key to building heritage here at Hillary House.



Jim Espie shares memories

School Visiting Programme

We want school leaders/prefects to come and visit us at Hillary House Leadership Centre. Our most recent group from Campbell's Bay Primary School thoroughly enjoyed their visit and did some interesting work with us based on their ideas of what leadership looks like. They also provided us with some new ideas of activities that could happen here and what might be featured in future – fantastic!

With the support of the Sir John Logan Campbell Residuary Estate, we can support a FREE visit for student leadership groups from Decile 5 or below schools. There is a small charge of \$10 per head for those visiting from schools which are Decile 6-10. Another recent visit was from the Rotary Interact Club students of One Tree Hill College, who enjoyed a presentation by one of Sir Ed's old friends, Jim Espie. The group was highly motivated by being in Sir Ed's surroundings and provided thoughtful feedback as they left. Young Leos from Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate are regular visitors for their meetings along with MATES programme student leaders.

Schools - to book a visit for your new school leaders, please email us soon. hillaryhouseleadershipcentre@gmail.com

Senior Visitors

We have so enjoyed welcoming our senior members of the community to Hillary House in recent months. Their enthusiasm and interest in Sir Edmund Hillary is infectious and we just love the stories and memories. Our most recent group from Ellerslie Probus arrived on Friday 23 March and created a new record – 40 excited people poured off the bus. In an email to the Chair, organiser Val Jackson said,

“thank you so much for our wonderful morning on Friday. Everyone enjoyed your hospitality and your sharing of ‘The Story’. Your passion was infectious and inspiring, and generated much interest. We wish you all the best as you continue to develop the project.”

Other groups have included Sir Edmund Hillary Retirement Village and Grace Joel retirement home.



Reflecting on Sir Ed's life

Other Visitors

Peter Hillary visited us again to be interviewed by Martin Johnston of the NZ Herald for a story about his father Sir Ed for printing on the tenth anniversary of his death, 20 January 2008. In case you missed the article, please see the link below.

<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/index.cfm?objectid=11962671&ref=twitter>

The University of Auckland Diversity Group and a group of academic leaders from the Pacific rented the House for a programme strengthening Pasifika education. Student leaders from Tahiti were enthralled to read the old newspapers which heralded Sir Ed's ascent of Mt Everest, and we enjoyed welcoming Dame Rosie Horton late last year. Other visitors have included Kat Doughty, CEO of the YWCA and YWCA Future Leaders Programme administrators. We look forward to welcoming new student mentees next month, and the mentors for this wonderful leadership programme later in the year.



Peter Hillary remembers his father, while sitting in the dining room of his old home



Himalayan Trust - Education Pack

We were delighted to have Prue Smith, CEO of the Himalayan Trust visit us and share information about the Himalayan Trust Education Pack. This resource takes students on a learning journey about Sir Ed's adventures in the Himalayas and how his legacy has helped so many. Specifically designed to support the New Zealand Social Sciences curriculum, it coincides with the 65th anniversary of the ascent of Everest on 29 May. Our student leader visitors will be shown this, and we encourage teachers to engage with this tremendous resource which is freely available from the link below.

www.himalayantrust.org/schools



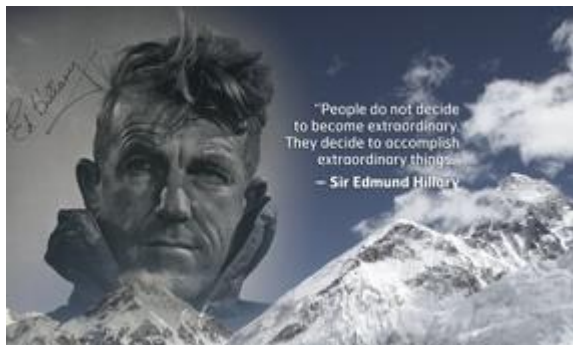
The TPS team at work

Our roof is clean!

Thanks to Stefan Joubert and his team at TPS Exterior Building Services Ltd, we are delighted that Sir Ed's house now has a very clean roof and gutters. Due to the new Health & Safety Act, roof cleaning now requires a cherry picker and other safety measures. Thanks also our key sponsor Karcher NZ Ltd, who have worked in collaboration with TPS. Afternoon tea and a tour of the house will be waiting for Stefan and his extended team in early May. The Trust is so appreciative of this support and highly recommends these sponsors.

www.tailoredpropertyservices.co.nz

www.karcher.co.nz



Keeping in touch

It's been a very busy six months working through our priorities and enjoying the contact as you come to know about the opportunities being fostered here at Hillary House, including venue hire.

Our next big achievement will be the launch of our new website in forthcoming months and we continue to fundraise to build our support resources. Sharing this email around your networks will definitely help us.

I would love to talk with any organisation, company or community group who would be interested in supporting this wonderful taonga to the legacy of Sir Edmund Hillary.

Nga mihi.

Robin

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