

## Newsletter Two – October/November 2018



*June, Lady Hillary (right) with Trust Chair Robin Houliker, at the Inspiring Leaders' Expedition event*

### Welcome from the Chair

These past few months have been busy with events and celebrating a significant milestone – the launch of our website [www.hillaryhouse.nz](http://www.hillaryhouse.nz). This now enables us to more effectively promote the work of Hillary House in building leadership potential, especially with young people. We look towards this becoming a resource for those wanting to know more about Sir Ed and his legacy.

Our strategic focus for 2018 was to grow our brand awareness and to reach out to other organisations which also promote and continue the work of Sir Ed. So, it was truly special to join the Antarctic Heritage Trust at the House celebrating the announcement of Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate (SEHC) leaders to join them in the Antarctic on their Inspiring Leaders programme. It was a significant milestone for all the organisations involved.

Members of the Hillary family attended the event and June, Lady Hillary, was delighted to see this relationship being forged between the Antarctic Heritage Trust, SEHC and the Hillary House Leadership Centre.



*Peter Uys, Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate Senior School Principal (right) with Mark Stewart of Antarctic Heritage Trust*

### Inspiring Leaders' Expedition celebrated

A special celebration at Hillary House on 18 October celebrated the new relationship between the Antarctic Heritage Trust and SEHC. Because Hillary House is on their site, two Year 12 students and one teacher from SEHC will join the Inspiring Leaders' Expedition to Antarctic in March 2019.

Mele Fetu'u and Lana Kiddie-Vai are hugely excited to join ten other young leaders (18-30 years) selected by the Antarctic Heritage Trust. This opportunity to build their leadership skills reflects the vision in establishing Hillary House as a place offering wider opportunities for young people to become explorers and give back to others.

[Click for video](#)



*Trustee Gail Thomson with Sarah Hillary (right) wearing her mother's*

### 'The house that Ed built' Open Day

As part of the Auckland Heritage Festival, we were proud to offer the first opportunity for the public to visit Hillary House. On Saturday 6 October more than 40 people visited and were able to enjoy a tour of the house, along with being the first to see an exhibition of storyboards reflecting the House in earlier times, family memories and some of Sir Ed's expeditions.

At more than a metre, these displays look wonderful throughout the House and we are very grateful for the voluntary contribution to the Trust from a number of experts, particularly Peter Burt, who did the design and layout. We also appreciated a \$1,000 grant from [BlueSky Community Trust](#) which contributed towards printing of these display boards.

Our visitors came from a wide variety of backgrounds - climbing, heritage, local body and/or previous involvement with the Hillary family. With a Festival focus upon *our heritage-our people*, having Sarah Hillary share her memories of growing up in the House added such a special perspective for our visitors – thank you Sarah.

We were fortunate that one of our Hillary Helpers, Christine Foley, agreed to manage the event and the accompanying compliance. Voluntary help from members of Rotary Downtown, along with Hillary Helpers, was also appreciated.



Rising Foundation student leaders visit Hillary House

### Student Leader Visiting Programme

More than 50 students from five Manukau secondary schools who are developing leaders in the [Rising Foundation](#) programme have visited the House in the past two months. Students have really enjoyed hearing about the journey of the House and always have many questions about Sir Ed and his life. In their feedback they shared that the visit has left them ‘feeling inspired’ and they found it ‘fascinating,’ ‘motivational’ and ‘mind blowing.’

Next year the Trust looks forward to hosting more student leader workshops and invites schools to make contact to arrange a visit.

With the support of a small grant from the [Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board](#), schools in this area are particularly encouraged to visit, as help with transport costs may be available.

[Read more>](#)



Olivia (right) at the Open Day with Denise Sutton, long-time Hillary House supporter and inaugural student of Hillary College

### Our thanks to Olivia

The Trust wishes to acknowledge the commitment of Olivia Cody-Matheson of Baradene College, who has helped us this year as part of fulfilling Gold level for the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award. Each week Olivia was required to give one hour of service to an organisation, and Hillary House has been the grateful recipient of her time and enthusiasm.

We will welcome Olivia back to acknowledge her achievement once she completes all the requirements for Gold level during 2019. Development of leadership skills reflects Sir Ed's aspirations for young people and we wish Olivia well as she continues her studies.



### 'Buy a Hillary Brick'

To help our fundraising, we continue to promote the sale of [Hillary Bricks](#). There are many potential uses for the bricks that organisations might use – special awards for leadership, art projects, inserted in a garden or landscaping initiatives, etc.

In conclusion, we continue to reach out for funding, especially to enable us to have people support. But in the meantime, the Trust thanks all our wonderful voluntary supporters as we could not do this important work without you.

We are also delighted to note the appointment of John Loof, who takes up the role as CEO of the Himalayan Trust in November. We look forward to

ongoing collaboration in projects which promote leadership in the spirit of New Zealand's most iconic figure - Sir Edmund Hillary.

With his birth centenary in July next year, we are already planning how to highlight this date and build awareness of Sir Ed's place in our history.

Nga mihi

*Robin*

Robin Houlker, Chair

Hillary House Leadership Centre Trust

Email: [robin.houlker@outlook.com](mailto:robin.houlker@outlook.com)

P O Box 55012

AUCKLAND 1146

[www.hillaryhouse.nz](http://www.hillaryhouse.nz)

Fb: [www.facebook.com/hillaryhouseleadershipcentre](https://www.facebook.com/hillaryhouseleadershipcentre)

Email: [hillaryhouseleadershipcentre@gmail.com](mailto:hillaryhouseleadershipcentre@gmail.com)