Te Ūaka
The Lyttelton
Museum

SUMMER
Newsletter 2026

A Message from the President Chris Korako

Kia ora koutou, Hello everyone,

As we approach the end of another busy year, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the progress of Te Ūaka The Lyttelton Museum and thank you for your continued interest, encouragement and support.

Our vision remains clear, to bring our extraordinary collection home to Lyttelton and create a museum that celebrates our rich heritage, tells our stories and connects generations. While the journey has been long, the determination to deliver this important community asset has never wavered.

Progress Towards Our New Museum

The proposed new museum in the heart of Lyttelton's centre represents an opportunity to create a vibrant cultural and community destination that will contribute to the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of Lyttelton and the wider Banks Peninsula.

Designed by Warren & Mahoney, the new museum will provide purpose–built spaces for exhibitions, collection care, education and community engagement.

Our plans also include opportunities to integrate the Lyttelton Information Centre, strengthening the museum's role as an important community asset.

We continue to work closely with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, recognising the importance of mana whenua in shaping the museum's identity, storytelling and future.

Funding Our Future

Securing the funding required to deliver the new museum remains our highest priority.

During the year, we have continued our engagement with Christchurch City Council, presenting our case for investment in a facility that will preserve our heritage while delivering lasting benefits for the community and visitors alike.

Alongside this work, we are progressing our fundraising programme, building relationships with philanthropic organisations, businesses, potential major donors and individuals who share our vision.

Fundraising will continue to be a significant focus, with opportunities for major gifts, pledges, sponsorship and naming partnerships.

Every contribution, regardless of size, helps move us closer to opening the doors.

The Value of Your Membership

Our members are an essential part of the Society and its future.

As we move into the next phase of the project, we encourage you to continue sharing our vision with friends, family, colleagues and anyone who may be interested in supporting the museum.

Looking Ahead to 2027

The coming year will be another important period for Te Ūaka The Lyttelton Museum.

Our priorities will remain firmly focused on progressing funding commitments, strengthening partnerships, advancing our staged delivery programme and maintaining engagement with the community.

Although there is still work ahead, we remain confident in the importance of this project and the enduring value it will deliver.

A Message from the President Chris Korako *cont*

Thank You

On behalf of the Committee, I extend my sincere thanks to our members, volunteers, donors, partners and supporters.

I also acknowledge the dedication of our Committee, whose commitment, expertise and considerable voluntary contribution continue to drive this project forward.

The new museum will be a living legacy for Lyttelton, a place to discover our past, understand our present and inspire future generations. We cannot do it without you.

Ngā mihi nui, with warmest wishes

Christine Korako, President
Lyttelton Museum Historical Society
Te Ūaka The Lyttelton Museum

Te Ūaka Past, Present, and Future: The Heritage Festival Breakdown!



5 gloriously sunny days, 70 fabulous visitors, 85 volunteer hours, and 1 very popular cannon later—what a week at the 2026 Christchurch Heritage Festival!

Here is the quick–and–fun recap of how it all went down at Te Ūaka:

The Highlights

- **Sunshine & Stories:** Over two action–packed weekends (October 17–18 & 24–26), we opened our doors to explore the museum's physical addresses and community connections through a series of panels, newspaper clippings, and photographs from our treasure–trove photo collection.
- **The Fan Favourite:** Although not officially part of the exhibition, the **cannon** in the courtyard proved very popular!
- **Community Connections:** We welcomed a mix of museum members, festival wanderers, and curious walk–ins. We picked up new email subscribers, heard wonderful trips down memory lane, and even received one or two offers for fundraising help.
- **Future Building Hype:** Visitors were eager to chat about our new museum building project and why we chose 35 London Street.

The Plot Twists

- **The Facebook Blockade:** Mid–festival, Facebook's policy changes threw a spanner in our social media posting plans. But we pivoted like pros and took the party over to **teuaka.org.nz**!
- **Where's the Cabin?** True to the spirit of the very first museum, a few visitors had a little trouble finding us tucked away behind London Street. (Consider it an authentic historical treasure hunt!)

Lessons & Game Plans for Next Time

1. **Kick Things Off Big:** Host an official opening event to party with our members and stakeholders.
2. **Smarter Signage:** Add a giant arrow on the fence so no one misses the steps from London Street.
3. **Cannon Context:** Have some details to hand about our popular courtyard cannon.

The Big Takeaway: Keeping our doors open and being visible matters! Our very own gravel pit became London Street's favourite peaceful breather, and showing up for the community paid off in spades.

Many thanks to our volunteers who made it happen!

Enjoy a Pizza, Help Rebuild the Museum

Te Ūaka
The Lyttelton
Museum

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Delicious pizza. A great local cause.

Enjoy handcrafted pizzas from **Greenhouse Catering** while supporting the rebuild of Te Ūaka The Lyttelton Museum.

Prepared fresh daily with slow fermented dough and hand stretched bases. Par-baked and topped with delicious ingredients ready for your oven.

Every order makes a difference!

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Discount Code: LYTTELTON

www.greenhousecatering.co.nz

$5 donated from every pizza or flatbread

$2 donated from every pack of gluten-free crackers

Promotion: 6 November – 22 December 2026
Last orders: 19 December for collection on 22 December.







COLLECTION: Tuesday – Friday, 10.30am–3.00pm,
60 Hawdon Street, Sydenham

https://greenhousecatering.co.nz/discount/Lyttelton

Donations apply to products ordered using the promotion code.

A Good Book!

Our work in collaboration with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke on the book **"Te Ūaka Stories – Woven histories of Whakaraupō Lyttelton Harbour"** progresses well. Many people have contributed to this project over the last five years and we really look forward to sharing the publication with you in 2027.

The book will contain a fascinating collection of tales connected to Whakaraupō Lyttelton Harbour, by tangata whenua and tangata tiriti storytellers associated with the hapū and the museum. The wide range of voices offer insight into our diverse histories, cultural narratives, and world views.

This will be a beginning in sharing a storytelling space and celebrating the resilience and innovation that is a characteristic of all who call this harbour home. There are a range of stories interwoven under the themes of Te Taiao (the environment), Tangata (people), Whakatere Moana (migration and seafaring), Te Tiri o te Moana (Antarctica), Whare (built heritage) and Whakaraupō Local (the harbour's social fabric).

We will keep you posted when this special book is due to hit the bookshops!

Museum Christmas Party

Sunday 6 December, 4pm to 7pm

Christmas Party 2026

We'd love you to join us on the cabin lawn for the annual Te Ūaka The Lyttelton Museum Christmas party. Catch up with fellow Museum members over complimentary drinks and Christmas treats. Our president, Christine Korako, will share highlights from 2026 and give us a look at what's planned for 2027.

If it rains, we'll gather under the awnings.

Please RSVP by Monday, 30 November to rebuild@teuaka.org.nz so we can cater for everyone.

See you on the lawn!

2027 Museum Calendar

Take a look back at some of the fascinating buildings that once stood in Lyttelton and around the harbour. Each black-and-white photograph is accompanied by a short description that tells you a little about the building and its history.

The calendar is spiral-bound, with space to write notes for each day.



$25

By buying this calendar you are helping us with our fundraising campaign.

The calendars are available at:

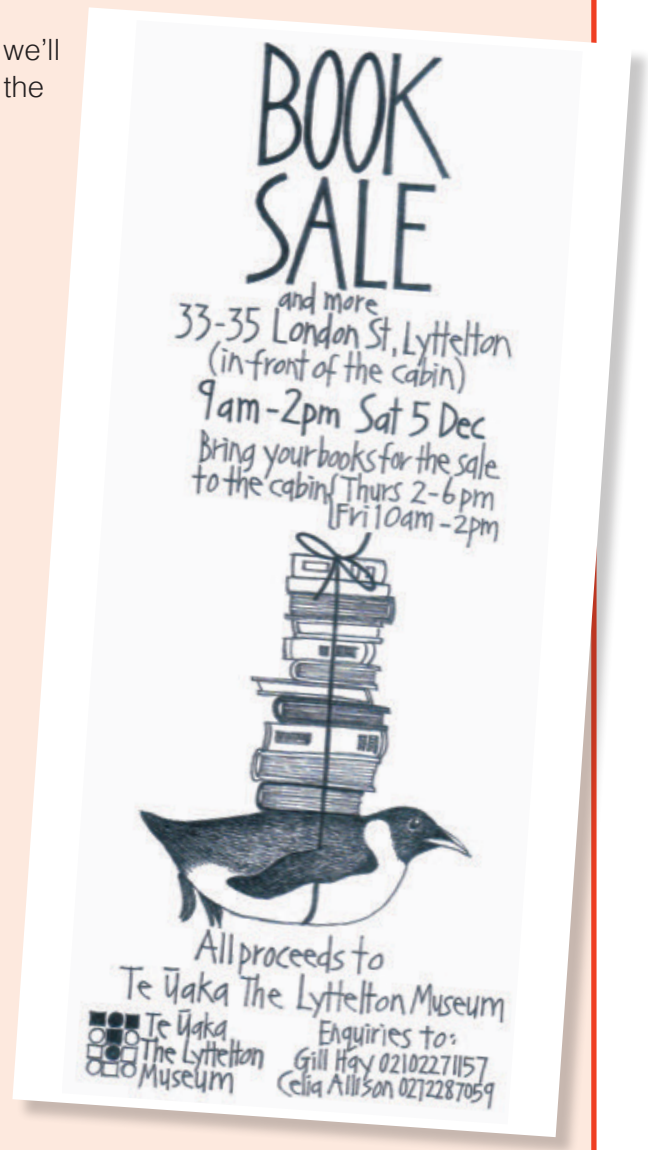
- Leslie's Bookshop
- Air, Sea & Land London St Bookshop
- Lyttel Kiwi
- Lyttelton Harbour Information Centre
- Henry Trading (Dec only)
- Museum stall at The Farmers Market

Book Sale

Saturday 5 December, 9am to 2pm

Museum merchandise, prints, home baking and preserves, plus a raffle.

If it rains, we'll be under the awnings.



DONATING BOOKS?

Museum cabin, **33–35 London Street**

Thursday 3 December, 2pm to 6pm
Friday 4 December, 10am to 2pm
Early drop-off or pickup: **Celia 027 228 7059**
or **Gill 021 0227 1157**

www.teuaka.org.nz

www.facebook.com/TeUakaTheLyttletonMuseum/

www.instagram.com/teuakathelytteltonmuseum/

www.linkedin.com/company/teuakathelytteltonmuseum

www.teuaka.org.nz/online-collection

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