

**Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga Newsletter #13**  
July – September 2008

**A New Bay of Islands Maori tourism experience**

Footprints Waipoua and Crossings Hokianga are involved in developing a new cultural experience in the Bay of Islands. Watch this space SOON for more information.

**It's Daylight Savings time again**

The Footprints Waipoua night walks depart an hour later now that it's daylight savings again. The 4 hour Twilight Encounter tour now departs at 6pm and returns at approximately 10pm. Adult \$85 Child \$25 (5 – 12)

**Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga Relocates**

You can currently find Nikki, Zak and the FW & CH office at the Opononi Resort Hotel.

**Footprints Waipoua speaks at a Primary Health Conference**

Koro and Tawhiri representing Footprints Waipoua co-presented at a Primary Health Conference in Paihia with the Far North District Council. This opportunity was a little different but enjoyable nonetheless.

**Manawatu Rugby**

The Manawatu Rugby team stayed at the Copthorne Hokianga during their pre-season visit to Northland. Thankfully enough the Taniwha won 19 – 8.

**Northland Roadshow**

The Northland Roadshow in Auckland was well attended this year. It was good to see several new Northland tourism experiences and faces most notably Gloria, Eva and Peter from Te Rerenga Paraoa Tours in Whangarei [www.tours.maori.nz](http://www.tours.maori.nz) and Jean and Jeff from Tourism Motuti [www.motuti.co.nz](http://www.motuti.co.nz). Once again a big thank you to the team at Destination Northland for another successful foray into the Auckland market and to all the agents who supported the Northland cause.

**JohnnyJet FAMIL**

*“One of the best tours I have been on in NZ. It encompasses the beauty of the natural ancient forest with the spirituality and cultural teachings of the Maori people, Awesome!”* Georgette Diamandis from JohnnyJet.com

**Mainstay NZ conference**

Koro spoke at the Mainstay NZ conference on the Gold Coast. Thank you Mainstay NZ for the opportunity and the Opononi Resort Hotel and Hokianga look forward to a prosperous future with the family.

**Hokianga in China and Japan**

A Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga Board Member Shane Lloyd recently traveled to China with a business delegation including the Mayor. Afterwards the Shane the Mayor and his wife visited Yakushima where we are doing a lot of work.

### **NZ Tourism Awards**

The Footprints Waipoua and Crossings Hokianga TEAMS would like to congratulate all the NZ Tourism Award nominees and winners. We would like to particularly acknowledge our industry partner Magic for taking out the biggie, the Supreme Tourism Award. Special mentions also to Tourmasters – the Distribution Category Award winner and William Goodfellow who won the PATA Young Tourism Professional Award

### **Good luck David Perks**

David recently left the North to take up his new position as CEO of Positively Wellington. Thanks David for being a tireless advocate for tourism in Northland and your contributions to tourism in Hokianga.

### **Koo Stark stays in Hokianga**

Koo Stark and her daughter Tatiana recently stayed in the Hokianga. This is how she described her Footprints Waipoua experience. *“Magical like ‘theatre in the woods’. The guides provided a ‘user-friendly’ introduction to Maori culture, it was like sitting on Granny’s knees and being told a story. The build up to seeing Tane Mahuta was so great that by the time we saw it, it was like seeing a popstar, Tatiana screamed!”*

### **NZ Eco Tourism Conference**

Koro recently attended the Eco Tourism conference in Greymouth. Koro said it was an amazing opportunity to meet likeminded people with like minded objectives. He would also like to acknowledge the tremendous job that team at Tai Poutini Polytechnic did in organising the conference.

### **Footprints Waipoua gets a special mention from Lonely Planet**

Check out the below link for more information

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/7/story.cfm?c\\_id=7&objectid=10527721&pnum=0](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/7/story.cfm?c_id=7&objectid=10527721&pnum=0)

### **Tourism News and Walking in the Realm of the Gods feature**

Check out the August edition of the Tourism News and you will find an article written by Melissa Crockett from Potiki Adventures about the Walking in the Realm of the Gods initiative. WIRG is a collection of independent Auckland and Northland tourism businesses (Potiki Adventures, Waka Taiamai Heritage Journeys, Footprints Waipoua, Crossings Hokianga) that have developed a strategic business relationship. These businesses in partnership with Tourism NZ travelled to the USA and Canada to promote storytelling and Maori tourism. Click on the link below and then download the PDF

[http://www.tourismnewzealand.com/tourism\\_info/publications/tourism-news/tourism-news\\_home.cfm](http://www.tourismnewzealand.com/tourism_info/publications/tourism-news/tourism-news_home.cfm)

Watch this space for more information.

### **Grand Pacific Conference**

Thanks to Grand Pacific for a fun and productive conference. Congratulations to all award winners including Northland’s Kauri Museum and Hotel Paihia.

### **Matakohe Museum New Entrance Opening**

The weather was fantastic at the opening of the new Matakohe Museum entrance. The weather was beautiful, the turnout fantastic and well the new entrance AWESOME.

The Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga TEAMS wish you all a prosperous coming Season.