

Edition #9 Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga Newsletter
September - October 2007

Welcome to the 9^h edition of our Newsletter. Our newsletter normally comes out every 3 months but so many things have happened in the last 2 months that we felt we just had to share the news with you now. I hope you find it an enjoyable read.

FAMILS

These are amazing opportunities for us to showcase our products and destination. Thanks to Tourism NZ and Destination Northland for your continued support.

A new Economic Development Officer for Northland

We would like to say a big welcome to Wayne Hutchinson a new Economic Development Officer for Northland. Wayne has been working with us in Hokianga and has already shown us evidence that suggests he has much to offer Hokianga, the Far North and Northland. Thanks Wayne we all look forward to working with you.

The 7 NATURAL WONDERS of Northland

Tane Mahuta was named #3 Wonder of Northland as voted by listeners of the radio station *More FM* and readers of the newspaper *The Northern Advocate*, all in the aid of identifying the Seven Natural Wonders of Northland. They were in order as follows.

1. The Poor Knights Islands
2. Hole in the Rock
3. Tane Mahuta
4. Cape Reinga
5. Kai Iwi Lakes
6. Ninety Mile Beach
7. Te Pahi Sand Dunes

What amazing wonders they are? No WONDER Northland is a unique destination that offers many experiences of a lifetime. If you're coming to New Zealand these are 7 reasons why you shouldn't miss the Northland region.

Reborn Tours from Japan Visits Hokianga

We had the pleasure of hosting Mr Iki-san and his wife Wakako-san from Reborn Tours. Reborn Tours is a leading Eco-Tourism company based in Tokyo. We are discussing many exciting future opportunities with them. Shane and I look forward to discussing further these opportunities next month. Visit www.reborn-japan.com for more information.

Kings / Intercity Group

Our thanks to Ross Grundy and Daniel Rode from Intercity for organising a successful Kings Crossings Hokianga FAMIL and a well attended Kings Brochure launch. I hope your visit to Australia Ross went well.

PCO Taste Test at Copthorne Hokianga

I understand that this Professional Conference FAMIL was enjoyed. I understand that Tawhiri and father act went down really well at dinner. Thank you to Ali, Helen and the TEAM at MCK for all their help and support; it certainly is very much appreciated.

Tourism Unplugged Ltd & Manaaki Card

Good luck Dawn for these new challenges. Contact dawn.unplugged@gmail.com or, 027 6422 882 for more information about Tourism Unplugged Ltd and Manaaki Card.

Magic Travellers Network

It has been a busy couple of months. Thanks guys for the new opportunity, organising the FAMILS, attending a community lunch and inviting me to your brochure launch in Auckland and Sydney. For those of you who don't know, Magic have reversed their Northland programme and so now Magic provide a transportation service to Auckland from Hokianga. The puzzle is slowly coming together.

CANON Cameras

Thanks to TNZ Japan for the opportunity to do some work with CANON.

GRANDPAC Groups

We look forward to providing Kings Crossings Hokianga opportunities to these groups. Thanks Peter and Stacia.

Dover Samuels Visit to Waipoua Forest

Dover Samuels and his aide Danny Merito recently visited the Waipoua forest and participated in a condensed Footprints Waipoua experience.

Ministry of Social Development Visit

Thank you to Carol, Nathan and Stacey for taking the time out to visit the Hokianga and having a chat with us and our elders about things. We appreciate your support and assistance to date and in the future.

Copthorne Hokianga and Opononi Resort Hotel Front Office Staff FAMILS

I'm glad you guys enjoyed the Footprints and Crossings experience. Now with your knowledge you can promote these experiences of a lifetime with confidence.

ASB Community Trust FAMIL AGM

Hokianga was very privileged to host the ASB Community Trust AGM. We hope that everyone enjoyed their visit and stay.

Northland Regional Tourism Seminar

Nikki and I attended the tourism industry conference at the Copthorne Bay of Islands. These events are always an opportunity to catch up with good friends, to meet new people and to learn more about our industry. Thanks to all the tourism organisations involved including Destination Northland.

Meeting with NZ Historic Places Trust

Shane, Wayne and I had lunch with Stuart Park and Gordon Hewston (Historic Places Northland Region). We look forward to working with Gordon and Stuart to develop opportunities that have many mutual and community benefits.

CONNECTIONS ADVENTURE Groups

We would like to welcome the Connections groups to Hokianga. We hope you enjoy your stay.

NZ Historic Places Trust Conference

The NZ Historic Places Trust Committee met in Hokianga. What a fitting place to meet and participate in discussions. On behalf of the Hokianga thank you for the opportunity.

New Brochures and Posters for Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga

Look out for our new brochures and posters. Many thanks to Sarah from Dux Creative for making the whole process so easy and enjoyable, I highly recommend her. Contact www.duxcreative.co.nz for more information and a quote.

New Promotional DVD for Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga

We have also been working with John Watkinson from Action Adventure Videos who has is currently developing a promotional DVD. John also has done some fantastic stuff

Sales Visits in Auckland with Pip and Craig

Thanks to Pip (Cophorne Hokianga) and Craig (BTM Specialists in Japanese Marketing) for a successful couple of days of sales visits last week.

New Zealand Paradise Week Gift Ceremony

Hokianga had the pleasure of hosting the Tourism Minister, Hon Damien O'Connor, the Consul General for Japan Mr Okabe and wife, Jane Kominik, Deputy CEO of the Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Brian Sanders, Head of Japan and Korea Unit for Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other guests to celebrate culture, history and 55 years of diplomatic relations between New Zealand and Japan. Shane and I look forward to visiting Japan next month and being involved in the New Zealand Paradise Week 2007. This will be the largest independent New Zealand promotional event ever to be held in Japan and will celebrate the vibrant mix of New Zealand's contemporary lifestyle and incorporates fashion, food, wine, music, and tourism. This week is a collective effort by Tourism New Zealand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Air New Zealand and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise. Shane and I would like to thank George and his entire team including Jason, Naoki and team in the Japan office, Karen Thompson and Kylie Ruwhiu for this opportunity. We would also like to thank our community, including our elders, key partners like Far North District Council, MSD and Impact Services and many of our community individuals. An incredible big thank you to Will Ngakuru (wood carver) for the impressive waka that was on display and that will represent the connection of two countries, cultures and people. A big thanks to everyone for the important roles you all played in ensuring this opportunity was not missed.

Conclusion

We look forward to a busy summer and also hope that you have a successful and safe season.

From Koro Carman & the Footprints Waipoua & Crossings Hokianga TEAMS.