



## Summit Engages Youth With The Spirit Of Antarctic Exploration

Young explorers learning about the 1889-1900 British Antarctic Expedition at the *Breaking the Ice* exhibition, Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand, during the Young Inspiring Explorers' Summit 2019.  
© Antarctic Heritage Trust/Kester Brown

Antarctic Heritage Trust, in partnership with the William Pike Challenge, hosted the inaugural Young Inspiring Explorers' Summit in Christchurch, New Zealand's gateway city to Antarctica, over the weekend of 21-22 September 2019.

The young explorers saw penguins up close at the International Antarctic Centre, where they also got to ride in a Hagglund, the all-terrain, amphibious Antarctic vehicle used to transport people and equipment on the ice. They camped out overnight, working collaboratively to set up their own tents. After dark they were challenged to complete "The Worst Journey in the World", a blind trail through a natural obstacle course of trees and bushes. They worked with huskies at Husky Rescue NZ, walking the dogs on the exercise course and learning all about the role of these important animals in Antarctic history. At Canterbury Museum, the young explorers were inspired by the legacies of historic Antarctic explorers including Scott, Shackleton and Hillary, whose legacies the Trust cares for, and learnt about the first people to spend a winter in Antarctica by visiting the *Breaking the Ice* exhibition.

The Trust's Executive Director Nigel Watson says the Trust aims to grow and empower the Shackletons and Hillarys of the future— young people who will draw on inspiration from the great Antarctic explorers of the past to drive positive change to meet the challenges of our changing world and understand the importance of Antarctica to the future of our planet.

"Underpinning our Inspiring Explorers programme is a commitment from participants to being curious about the world we live in, being prepared to step out of their comfort zones, encouraging positive risk taking, and sharing their often life-changing experiences."

William Pike says it was incredible to give Kiwi kids an opportunity to learn more about the history of Antarctica, its wildlife, science and importance to the world today.

He says all young people deserve a future where they succeed in life, no matter what unexpected challenges and obstacles come their way.

"To be prepared for what life throws at us, we need a bank of experiences under



Young explorers working with huskies at Husky Rescue NZ.  
© Antarctic Heritage Trust/Kester Brown



Young explorers trying on Antarctic clothing from different eras at Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand. © Antarctic Heritage Trust/Kester Brown





Learning from the best—young explorers getting some tips on setting up tents from William Pike. © Antarctic Heritage Trust/Kester Brown

our belt, and that's what the Summit is all about," Pike says, "It's given a lot of these youngsters a big step in confidence, a whole lot of communication skills have been developed over the weekend, as well as problem-solving skills, critical thinking and leadership—21st century life skills that are so essential to these kids today".

The young explorers documented their journeys, and after returning home have been sharing their experiences through presentations to their school classrooms and assemblies.

Since attending the Summit, many of the young explorers have commented that the

experience broadened their knowledge about the polar regions, encouraged them to learn more, and tested their resilience.

"Not only do I now have a completely different view of Antarctica and its history, but I am very interested to learn even more. I know that Shackleton's story is just one of the amazing and wild things that has happened in Antarctica. I'm super excited to gain even more knowledge in the upcoming years." – Young Inspiring Explorer Amber Wotherspoon.

"It is an experience that I will most probably remember for the rest of my life." – Young Inspiring Explorer Alex Maddox.

"The Summit has impacted my life because now I want to go everywhere and see everything. I want to see what's on the other side or go the extra mile because who knows what will be there ... only the person who explores!" – Young Inspiring Explorer Poppy Wyndham.

Having completed the Summit, the students have become members of the Antarctic Heritage Trust's Alumni Programme, which includes Inspiring Explorers like William Pike, Brando Yelavich, Hollie Woodhouse and many others.

The Summit was run in partnership with Christchurch NZ, The Antarctic Office and the International Antarctic Centre, with support from Husky Rescue NZ, Canterbury Museum and Antarctica New Zealand.



Watch a video at: [nzaht.org](http://nzaht.org)

## Governance

Following 13 years of service Murray Harrington will finish his role as PriceWaterhouseCoopers' representative treasurer for the Trust at the end of this year. Murray has done a wonderful job over this time and has made a substantial contribution to the activities of the Trust. His business experience and wise counsel have been valued by the Board and senior management throughout his tenure. We are very grateful for his support.

## In Memory

Arnold Heine, a pioneer of New Zealand's activities in Antarctica and a friend of the Trust, passed away on 7 October this year. Amongst many notable Antarctic accomplishments and contributions, Arnold was awarded the Polar Medal in 1969. He was a field safety/guide during the initial Trans-Antarctic Expedition scouting missions to establish Scott Base, was on the Victoria Land Traverse in 1958-59, and was a member of the New Zealand Geological Survey Antarctic Expedition 1962-1963. He was the secretary of the New Zealand Advisory Committee of the Trans-Antarctic Association for almost 50 years. He will be dearly missed.

This season the conservation team returned some of Arnold's original clothing kit to Hillary's (TAE/IGY) hut after he and his wife Jan generously donated it to the Trust earlier this year. It included items such as a hooded down insulated jacket, a pair of down tent booties, canvas knee-high boots, brown leather mountaineering boots and various gloves. The items have been conserved and placed in Hillary's room in the building alongside other clothing from this era.



## The Frozen Wild

Antarctic Heritage Trust is pleased to announce a new exhibition at New Zealand's Christchurch Airport featuring photography and soundscape by 2019 Inspiring Explorers Marco de Kretser and Alexander Hillary. Marco and Alexander were two members of the Trust's Inspiring Explorers' Expedition to the Antarctic Peninsula in March 2019.

From the immense icy land and seascapes, ancient glaciers, historic explorer sites, shrieking birds and up-close encounters with wildlife, they expertly captured the sights and sounds of the icy continent through lens and microphone.



View an online version of the exhibition, and download the soundscape at [nzaht.org](http://nzaht.org)





# 2020 Inspiring Explorers' Expedition Announced

Inspiring Explorers kayaking off the Antarctic Peninsula, 2019. © Antarctic Heritage Trust/Alexander Hillary

Antarctic Heritage Trust is providing an opportunity of a lifetime in March 2020 for a group of young people from New Zealand to participate in the Inspiring Explorers' Expedition 2020.

In a new partnership with Quark Expeditions, the team will experience a voyage to the Antarctic Peninsula.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore the world's most extreme environment, kayak in Antarctica, and connect with the spirit of exploration.

As part of an ongoing partnership between the Trust and Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate in Otara, Auckland, New Zealand, two

students and a teacher from the Collegiate will be part of the expedition, along with five other young people from across New Zealand selected from hundreds of applicants.

They will have opportunities to explore Antarctica with the Trust and Mike Dawson (two-time Olympian and NZ kayak champion). Quark Expeditions President Andrew White speaks to the life-changing nature of polar exploration: "No one returns from the Antarctic unchanged in some way. Stepping out of your comfort zone is something I've valued since my very first polar expedition.

Part of our Polar Promise sustainability framework is to leverage the transformational power of the polar regions to do good; this is so strongly aligned with the Trust's mission to engage young people with the spirit of exploration that the partnership seemed like a win/win from the outset".

This trip will offer participants a chance to push themselves, to connect with experts, and learn about the history, science, wildlife, environment, and legacy of exploration in Antarctica.

The Trust looks forward to announcing the expedition team in early 2020.



## Antarctic Conservation Update

### Ross Island

A team of four travelled to Ross Island in November to implement the annual monitoring and maintenance programme for the heroic-era huts. Joining the Trust's Programme Manager Al Fastier was returning contractor Nicola Stewart (conservator), the Trust's General Manager Operations and Communications Francesca Eathorne and Executive Director Nigel Watson. The team successfully completed monitoring and maintenance tasks at Shackleton's, Scott's and Hillary's huts and undertook some unexpected emergency repairs.

Part of the monitoring programme included clearing data loggers and measuring temperature and relative humidity. This information helps the Trust understand how the buildings are responding to conservation interventions and helps to detect any emerging issues. Artefacts are checked and photographed for comparison with previous seasons. The Trust also hosted a number of visiting parties from various national programmes at the huts, sharing the stories of the early explorers and the Trust's conservation work.

### Port Lockroy

As part of our successful partnership with the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust, the Trust's Programme Manager – Artefacts Lizzie Meek joined the conservation team working at Port Lockroy on the Antarctic Peninsula this season. The team is working at Base A, Britain's first permanent Antarctic base. In a busy programme they are, amongst other objectives, aiming to catalogue and condition report over 3000 artefacts from Bransfield House, the main building at Base A.

### Cape Adare

In early 2020, with the support of Antarctica New Zealand and the Chinese National Antarctic Programme, the Trust will endeavour to get ashore at Cape Adare to finish installing the field camp. Several more seasons' work are needed to complete the major conservation of the huts before the conserved artefacts can be returned.

Conservation team member Francesca Eathorne in Discovery Hut. © Antarctic Heritage Trust/Nicola Stewart



Read the Antarctic blog at  
[nzaht.org](http://nzaht.org)



## From Ice to Oceans

Inspiring Explorer (2019) and Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate student Lana Kiddie-Vai, who joined the Trust's Inspiring Explorers' Expedition to the Antarctic Peninsula gave a presentation to participants of an Ocean Youth workshop at Sea Life Kelly Tarlton's in September.

Lana has made the most of mentoring opportunities from fellow Inspiring Explorers Rosanna Price and Fulbright Scholar Georgina Archibald, and has been taking advantage of media and public-speaking opportunities since the expedition to progress her skills in these



Inspiring Explorer 2019 Lana Kiddie-Vai (centre) with participants on an Ocean Youth workshop at Sea Life Kelly Tarlton's. © Emma Ferguson

areas. She gave an inspirational talk about her life-changing experiences in Antarctica, and stayed and spoke with the students afterwards, offering them advice and help with their projects.

## Alumni and Members Event

The Trust hosted a special event in early October in Christchurch, New Zealand, for Canterbury-based alumni and members to acknowledge their ongoing support. Attendees were treated to a guided whisky tasting by Michael Fraser Milne of Whisky Galore, with each dram paired with a delicious cake from Cakes by Anna. The evening was a great chance for people to catch up and create new connections. It was fantastic to see the wide range of alumni and members there representing areas of the Trust's work from conservation, governance and the Inspiring Explorers programme. Special thanks to Michael and his team at Whisky Galore for a wonderful evening and their generous support.



Matthew Ogier catches up with Margaret Bradshaw at the Whisky Galore alumni and members event. © Antarctic Heritage Trust/Kester Brown

## Inspiring Exploration by Bicycle

Inspiring Explorer (2018) Brando Yelavich made the monumental achievement of becoming the first person to traverse the continent of Australia by bicycle when he arrived at Byron Bay on 28 September 2019, having left Steep Point in Western Australia 125 days earlier.

Part of Brando's motivation for the trip was to raise awareness for mental health and empower others to become the best version of themselves. He aims to inspire people to learn about themselves, understand what they are capable of and gain a connection with nature.

Brando successfully crossed the Greenland ice cap as a member of the Inspiring Explorers' Expedition 2018.

Inspiring Explorer (2017) Isobel Ewing has completed a bicycle expedition from Samarkand, Uzbekistan to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, a journey of 2000km along the Silk Road, an ancient route that encapsulates the spirit of discovery and exploration.



Inspiring Explorer (2018) Brando Yelavich in the Australian desert. © Brando Yelavich

Isobel climbed Mt Scott on the Antarctic Peninsula with the Trust's Inspiring Explorers' Expedition in 2017.



Read about Brando's expedition at [wildboyadventures.com](http://wildboyadventures.com)  
Read about Isobel's adventures at [isobelewing.com](http://isobelewing.com)

## Woman of Influence

Trust alumna Annika Andresen has won the Young Leader category in the 2019 NZ Women of Influence Awards.

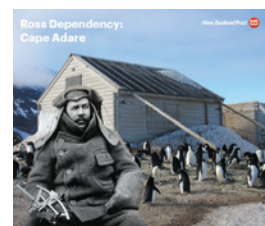
Annika was the 2016 Antarctic Youth Ambassador, a role created in partnership between Antarctic Heritage Trust, Antarctica New Zealand and Blake. She worked as part of the Trust's conservation team on Sir Edmund Hillary's Trans-Antarctic Expedition Hut for the 60th anniversary of Scott Base in Antarctica during the 2016-17 season.

Annika Andresen at Scott Base, 2017. © Antarctic Heritage Trust



## Cape Adare Stamps

NZ Post have produced a special "Ross Dependency: Cape Adare" stamp set. The stamps and stamp packs



feature scenes and artefacts from the heroic era expeditions to Cape Adare, and information about Antarctic Heritage Trust's efforts to conserve the buildings and artefacts left behind by the men of the *Southern Cross* and *Terra Nova* expeditions.



You can purchase a stamp pack from [stamps.nzpost.co.nz](http://stamps.nzpost.co.nz)

## Thank You

We welcome the following new members:

**Silver** Aida Crombach (NZ)  
Emma Waterhouse (NZ)

**Bronze** David Penrose (NZ)

If you would like to support our work, we would welcome your donation or support as an Antarctic Explorer Club member.

More information on how to support the Trust can be found on our website. [nzaht.org](http://nzaht.org)