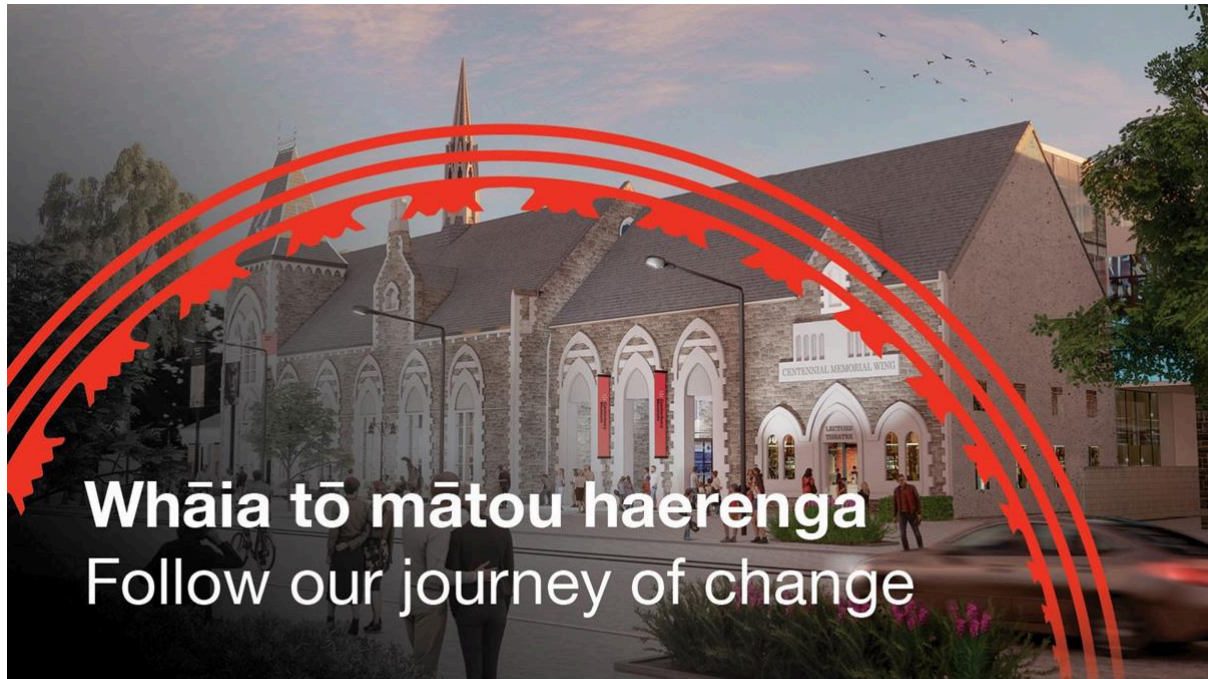


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Whāia tō mātou haerenga
Follow our journey of change

From the Tumuaki | Director

Kia ora koutou

A great journey deserves a great name.

Canterbury Museum has set out on an epic journey to redevelop our buildings and deliver a world-class visitor attraction that celebrates people and place.

This is the next leg in the Museum's great voyage, which started in 1867 when Julius von Haast first opened his collection to the public in the Provincial Chambers building.

The redevelopment of the Rolleston Avenue site has presented us the opportunity to reimagine and transform not just the buildings, but the institution itself.

We are also embarking on a journey of cultural development that starts with growing stronger relationships with mana whenua and the wider communities we serve.

With guidance from the Museum's Ōhākī o Ngā Tīpuna (iwi advisory group) we have given this journey a name: *Araiteuru – Ara roa. Ara nui. Ara ake rā – A great journey. An extended journey. A revealing journey.*

Araiteuru was one of the early waka hourua (double hulled canoe) to make the migration to Aotearoa New Zealand and the first to reach Te Waipounamu the South Island. It is a name that speaks of whakapapa, voyaging and bravery.

Our journey will provide many challenges and opportunities and foremost among those is a rebalancing of the narrative as we tell the stories of all the people who live in Waitaha Canterbury.

Araiteuru is both the name of our journey and the name given to the new mana whenua gallery at the heart of the redeveloped Museum. The gallery will be home to the taonga Māori collection and the stories of mana whenua told by mana whenua. Cultural knowledge, whakapapa and purakau (ancient stories) will also be visually woven throughout the new building.



Araiteuru, the new Māori heart of the Museum. Image: Athfield Architects

These stories will be told alongside the journey stories of all those people who live here in Waitaha Canterbury, from the arrivals of Waitaha, Ngāti Māmoe and Ngāi Tahu, through to the early British and European settlers, the first four ships and more recent stories of immigration from around the globe. The journey stories of the land and its unique flora and fauna will also hold pride of place.

Old favourites like the *Christchurch Street* and *Fred & Myrtle's Pāua Shell House* will return and others like the Antarctic displays will be rethought to include new objects and stories acquired over the last 20 years.



Exhibition and retail space in the 1877 Benjamin Mountfort designed building which faces Rolleston Avenue. Image: Athfield Architects

Part of this journey is accepting and owning that at times the Museum's relationship with mana whenua has been out of balance and under-valued. We cannot deny the past and some of the more questionable museum practices of the past, but these are not our future.

The name for this new voyage has its origins in Māori seafaring. Araiteuru was a single vessel with two hulls lashed together to give it stability to withstand the powerful ocean waves, yet agile enough to safely navigate to its new home.

This is the hope we hold for the Museum's voyage as we set a course towards a future that will deliver a new Museum and better relationships with all our communities built on understanding and partnership.

Last week we invited mana whenua, our major funders and Museum supporters to Rehua Marae for the launch of Araiteuru, our journey name, and an update on construction progress.

You can watch the full presentation below.

Ngā mihi nui
Anthony



A Great Journey Deserves a Great Name



View our update on the Museum redevelopment and launch of *Araiteuru – Ara roa. Ara nui. Ara ake rā* – A great journey. An extended journey. A revealing journey. Watch until the end for a fly through of the new Museum.



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