



NZ Remembers

The New Zealand Experience, Le Quesnoy

Newsletter of the New Zealand Memorial Museum Trust - Le Quesnoy

OCT 2023

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are open!

Celebrations happened. Formal and informal events were held. We had the chance to thank our donors and the all the people who have contributed to this project over the years. Now the NZ Liberation Museum - Te Arawhata is open for everyone to share.

I will let the images do the talking, however you can read the speeches given at the opening on our website, nzliberationmuseum.com. This newsletter opens with my extended message to you all.

As always, I extend my thanks to all our friends and supporters, and we will continue to keep you updated. We raise awareness of the museum wherever we can. Fundraising continues.

Freedom, Friendship, Future

Sir Don McKinnon - Chair

New Zealand Memorial Museum Trust - Le Quesnoy

NEW ZEALAND AND LE QUESNOY



Marie Sophie Lesne, Mayor of Le Quesnoy and Sir Don McKinnon,
Chair of the New Zealand Memorial Museum Trust.



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A MESSAGE TO YOU ALL



On a crisp clear sunny morning, under an almost cloudless blue sky, Te Arawhata, finally opened.

This joyful day, the culmination of hard work and fundraising, came almost 105 years exactly since young New Zealand soldiers gathered outside Le Quesnoy's walls with a mission to save lives and return freedom to the town's people.

Those of us who were at Le Quesnoy came to honour those brave men. Telling their story, through the brilliance of the museum design and Wētā Workshop's unique craftsmanship, keeps their memory alive and vivid. The New Zealanders and others present at the opening all expressed their emotional response to the images and narratives - some reduced to tears at finally having a place to come and reflect on a family member's final day on earth in Nov 1918.

Many of you could not be with us in Le Quesnoy but we celebrated and acknowledged the generosity of all our donors and supporters over the course of two special days and nights. I can't thank you enough for all you have done or given.

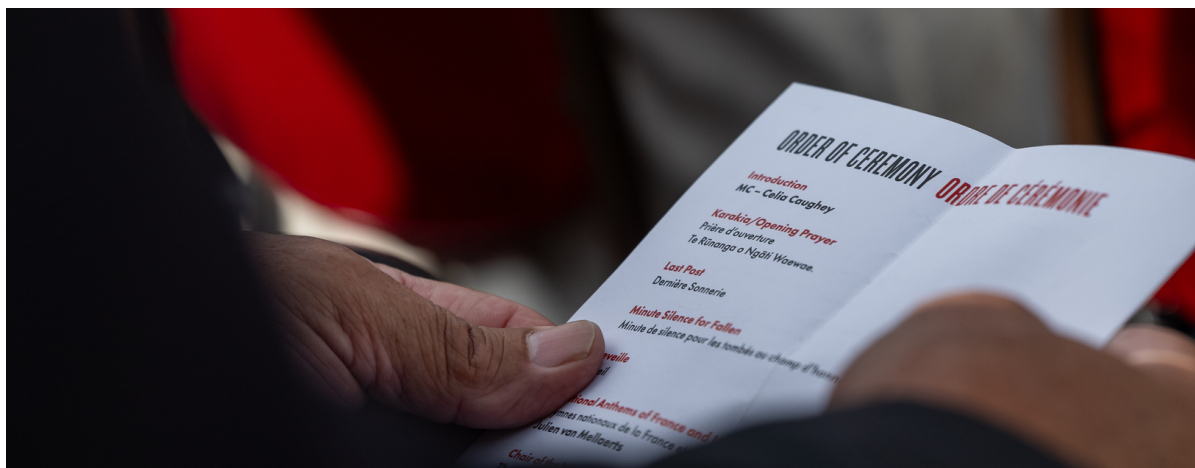


Photo: Eric Compennolle



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NZ LIBERATION MUSEUM - TE ARAWHATA



The Encounter Room



The Room of Views - The Photography of Henry Armytage Sanders



He Tangata Room - Stories of the people



From the Field to the Front - The Rugby Exhibition



Te Ara Tuku - The Message Room



THE DAWN BLESSING LED BY TE RŪNANGA O NGĀTI WAEWAE - DAY 1



Te Rua Mason and Col Rian McKinstry



Jenni Giblin and Sir Lockwood Smith





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AROUND LE QUESNOY





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THE OPENING - DAY 2



L-R Felicity Wilson, Sir Jerry Mateparae, Celia Caughey, Julian van Mallaerts (singing the national anthems), Marie Sophie Lesne, Sir Don McKinnon



Sir Lockwood Smith, Dame Patsy Reddy, Sir David Gascoigne



Andrew Higgott, Cam Lindsay, Brendan Lindsay, Sir Tim Laurence, Lady Alexandra Smith, Sir Lockwood Smith



Maj. Nigel Gattsche and Jean Marie



Photo: Eric Compennolle





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SOME OF OUR PEOPLE



Cam Lindsay and Brendan Lindsay



Richard Izard via video message



Mark Stewart and Ainsley Walter



David McLean and Colin G Gibbons



George Shelton and Alice Averill



Thomas Auger and Joe Mason



Mark Hall



Petera Tapsell



Kerry Underhill



Luke and Deirdre van Velthooven, Josh Hansen



Clare de Lore, Lady McKinnon, Raymonde Dramez, Marie Sophie Lesne



Mayor Susan O'Regan, Jo Davies-Colley, Deputy Mayor Liz Stolwyk



Rachel Steel, May Upton and Ben Upton



Jude Dobson, Peter McKinnon and Sir Tim Laurence



Miriam Mason, Sir Wayne Shelford and Ani Mason