

BRAVE HEARTS

THE NEW ZEALAND CARDIAC STORY



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www.bravehearts.co.nz

Many of you will know that Brave Hearts – the New Zealand Cardiac Story opened at the Auckland Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT) in August 2017 and since then has moved to several different locations. Visitor numbers to date exceed 90,000 including 500 school children from 12 schools, as a part of our very successful school's education programme. In its current location in south Auckland, thanks to a generous donation from the Hugo Charitable Trust, a further 1,300 school children from 20 decile one schools are booked to participate in the programme designed for children in years 7 to 10.

Overall visitor feedback for Brave Hearts is overwhelmingly positive with people of all ages fascinated by the innovative design of this mobile exhibition, the objects displayed and the stories. Visitors have included many former patients some of whom had complex lifesaving surgery as small babies – some have visited with their own children. Former patients and their families have sent us their own stories which we are collecting in an archive. Please help us spread the word by telling family and friends about Brave Hearts – check www.bravehearts.co.nz for details on location and opening times, see photos and other information.

BRAVE HEARTS – THE NEW ZEALAND CARDIAC STORY. WHERE TO NEXT?

Brave Hearts moved from MOTAT late January 2018 to the University of Waikato, returning to Auckland to AUT's North Campus in April and then to the Wynyard Quarter. Currently Brave Hearts is at AUT's South Campus in Manukau. At the end of September Brave Hearts will move to Henderson before going to Rotorua in November. Interest in hosting Brave Hearts has come from other regions of New Zealand and we are actively seeking funding to ensure this can be achieved.

COLLOQUIUM – A MEDICAL MUSEUM

In May 2018 AMMT hosted a meeting to discuss the future and format of a medical museum in Auckland, attended by representatives from medical museums and collections from around New Zealand. Dr Simon Chaplin, Director of Culture and Society, Wellcome Trust (London) was the keynote speaker. Other key attendees and speakers were from Ngāti Whātua, Auckland Heart of the City, Auckland Museum, MOTAT, and ADHB along with presentations from those with experience of managing medical museums/collections.

Conclusions from the meeting indicated public interest and support for an institution that would play the role of a medical museum: this aligned clearly with presentations by Simon Chaplin and Auckland Museum in terms of the role of museums today, as places that are society oriented, interactive and educational. Such institutions do not necessarily need to occupy a physical space nor take on the role of collecting, cataloguing, storing and generally looking after physical objects. AMMT is now thinking through the conclusions and issues raised during the meeting and considering how to move forward with an approach that will be strategic and sustainable long term.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our thanks to all our donors, our sponsors, our business partners and many others especially the volunteers who assisted us at the Wynyard Quarter – for their generosity, goodwill and support. Without this collaboration, we would not be able to tell The New Zealand Cardiac Story. The future of Brave Hearts however does depend on ongoing financial support to maintain the exhibition and to provide the resources to enable the exhibition to travel. The cost and logistics involved in moving two large shipping containers is considerable and requires a very high level of expertise, oversight and management.

To donate to Brave Hearts see www.bravehearts.co.nz/support-us

AUCKLAND MEDICAL MUSEUM TRUST (AMMT)

Brave Hearts – the New Zealand Cardiac Story is an exhibition under the auspices of the AMMT, a registered Charitable Trust established in 2014 with a goal of developing a medical museum to provide an enduring history of health services in Auckland and New Zealand.