

Case Study: Ora Garden Project

Name of organisation: Taupo Museum

Key personnel:

* Karen Williams (museum manager) and Taupo District Council colleagues: Jean Paul Gaston, John Ridd, Steve Hanshaw and Julie Slee.

*Consultant: Peter Langford, PLDesign, Auckland

*The Ora garden design team: Team leader Priscilla Edbrooke and creative team: Kim Jarrett, Tina Hart, Lyonel Grant, Brian Massey and Trish & Doug Waugh.

*Committee members - Friends of the Lake Taupo Museum & Art Gallery

Description of the project:

To purchase and install '100% Pure New Zealand Ora – Garden of Wellbeing' at the Taupo Museum -as a living exhibit in a secure courtyard reached via the museum reception.

Main themes:

The garden was seen as a perfect fit for our central North Island location with its native bush, geothermal terraces and Maori cultural references.

Ora's wide appeal both to international and domestic visitors was an attraction the museum could market to build visitor numbers.

Challenges:

To bring both the district council and the community on board to assist with funding as the Ora Project was not part of the annual budget

To work with and gain the trust of the Ora design team and to ensure the integrity of the original Ora garden was maintained

To transform Ora from a short-term display into a long-term exhibit

To integrate the Ora garden and courtyard into the overall museum design

To improve the links between the shopping centre and the museum/garden using signs and pathways

Ongoing challenges:

To maintain the pool and gardens to a high standard in keeping with the gold medal-winning garden.

To maximise opportunities created by the garden by adding complementary museum displays.

To use the Ora garden courtyard as a function space without compromising our core business

Milestones:

May 2004

Ora Garden wins at Chelsea and Idea conceived to bring the garden to Taupo

November 2004

Visit Ellerslie Flower Show to view the Ora garden

July 2005

First contact with Ora garden team

September 2005

Costing of \$230,000 estimated for garden project not including associated museum alterations

October 2005

Museum becomes part of Taupo District Council & council agree to back the unbudgeted Ora Garden Project if museum can raise \$200,000

November 2005

Friends of Lake Taupo Museum & Art Gallery launch fundraising appeal

April 2006

Contract documents signed between TDC & Ora design team

May 2006

Fundraising appeal target reached

July 2006

Construction starts

October 2006

Garden & Courtyard completed

23 March 2007

Grand opening

Costings

Total cost: \$300,000

Payment to the 6 member design team: includes purchase of the garden, artwork, silica terraces and other hardware; revision of the design and plantings, layout of design elements & landscaping of the site, the full installation of the Ora garden, plumbing of the central water feature & garden lights (\$150,000)

Payment to builders: includes construction & plastering of 40 metre long courtyard wall (weight-bearing); construction of pump shed, alterations to the museum to provide internal access to the new Ora Garden courtyard, toilet construction (\$100,000)

Payments to contractors and other small works: includes site preparation, paving of courtyard, garden gates, lighting (internal & exterior), electrical & irrigation costs (\$50,000)

Funding sources:

\$225,000 in community donations, business and service club donations and other grants. (*Appendix 1. List of Foundation Sponsors, Ora Garden Project*).

\$75,000 Taupo Museum & TDC Capex.

Source of further information:

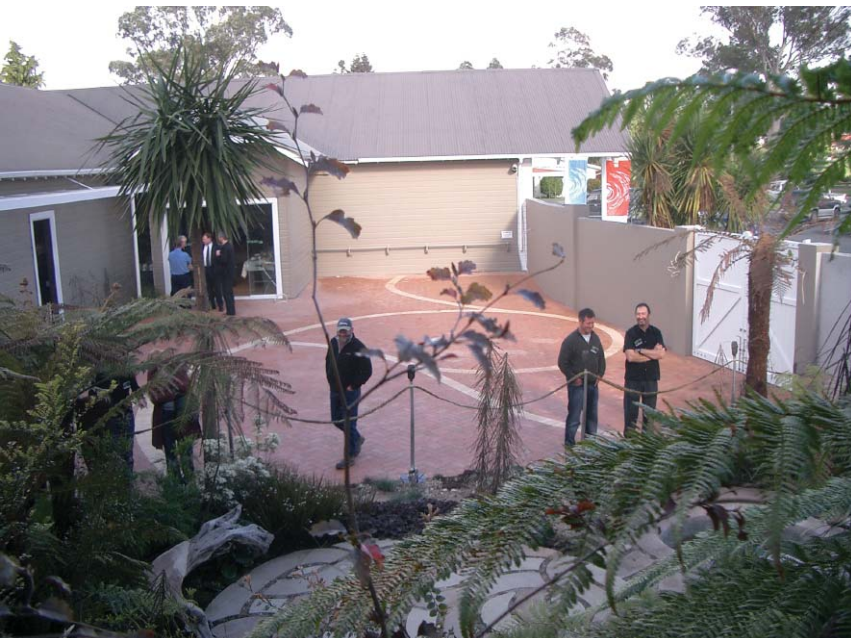
www.taupomuseum.co.nz



Side view museum



Misty morn



Overview from top of site with new paving after blessing



Foundation Sponsors Ora Garden Project

GOLD FERN SPONSORS (\$15-30,000)

Craters of the Moon Trust
Ministry of Tourism
Rotary Club of Taupo Moana
Contact Energy Ltd

SILVER FERN SPONSORS (\$5-10,000)

Malcolm Flowers Insurances
John R Sutton
In memory of Jay and Ron Swanston
Pak 'n Save Taupo – Trevor and Erin Jones
Robert Mount Edgcumbe
Creative Taupo
Trident Trust – Nicola Williams
Bay Trust

BRONZE FERN (\$1000 - \$4000)

The Southern Trust
New Zealand Corner
Mark & Carol Burton
Gordon & Annette Collier
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Chris & Cathy Johnston
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Lake Taupo Accommodation Association
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