



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

27 May 2015

Henk Haazen
Awawaroa Bay Eco Village
Waiheke Island RD1
Auckland 1971

Dear Henk

On behalf of the Department of Conservation, I wish acknowledge your very generous support with the recent restoration work completed at Ranui Base. This work has given the Coastwatchers Base a chance for a future with making the building weatherproof and stable. The Base is an important part of New Zealand World War II history and subantarctic history. The enthusiasm and commitment from yourself and the rest of the team was definitely a drive behind getting the project from a talking stage to a happening stage.

As you know, your donation of \$9000 for materials, together with an historic grant from the Department, enabled the base to get re-roofed and re-piled. Quite an ambitious work schedule but this didn't phase the team and they all worked extremely hard in sometimes trying conditions to get the work completed. They were definitely up for the challenge and their skill base and expertise was invaluable for the success of the project.

The expedition also enabled the Ranui and Tagua Lookouts to be refitted with new historic windows, vents, weatherboards and a fresh paint. They both look fantastic, as you saw when you came to pick the team up. Your knowledge of the Subantarctics and weather patterns is a real confidence to teams travelling on the Tiamas, plus your support and willingness to help with projects.

Dave Margetts from Heritage New Zealand spent some time at the Ranui Base while the Navy were in support to gather the information he needs to compile the Conservation Plan for the site. This will help guide the Department for future works and possibly deem the site an actively managed historic site in line with the Lookouts.

Thank you again Henk for your contribution and I hope that we can continue to work together in the Subantarctics and build on these partnerships and interests that we all share.

Kind regards

Brent Beaven
Conservation Services Manager
Southern Islands