



POU: PŌWHIRI

welcome there is a place here for you

On April 3 2016 our church consecrated a tohu/sign of our commitment to our 'cross-cultural journey'. Sitting between the main entrance doors to our Lyttelton St site Gym is a pou. It encompasses our story of the gospel in the setting of south west Christchurch, and is an encouragement to us that Christ would want our place and our whānau to look a lot like his – people from all different walks of life, colour and persuasion.

This is a commissioned work by the tohunga whakairo/carver, Riki Manuel.



POU: PŌWHIRI

welcome there is a place here for you

On April 3 2016 our church consecrated a tohu/sign of our commitment to our 'cross-cultural journey'. Sitting between the main entrance doors to our Lyttelton St site Gym is a pou. It encompasses our story of the gospel in the setting of south west Christchurch, and is an encouragement to us that Christ would want our place and our whānau to look a lot like his – people from all different walks of life, colour and persuasion.

This is a commissioned work by the tohunga whakairo/carver, Riki Manuel.

There are three big themes encompassing the pou:

1. WELCOME

Come on in, it doesn't matter who you are and where you are from, we will make space in this special place.

- Whāriki – the flax mat adorning the entranceway, a welcome sign and also used as a gift to seek forgiveness of an insult or offence
- Symbols for all the iwi we are welcoming – along with faces carved from different varieties of wood, there is a Māori koru, the flower representations from Asian and the Pacific, the Celtic knot symbols from Europe, the rainbow from the African continent, Moriori patiki stick figures, and the English agriculturalists.

2. JOURNEY

We are on a journey that is migratory in nature and transforming. While the pathway before us might narrow, there is still guidance and sustenance on the way.

- Ngongo - migrating cricket bird
- Hekenga – voyage of the waka and puhoro design (for speed)
- The three large piko/fern fronds represent past, present and future
- Te ara whāiti – the narrow path of the sweeping red panels on the left

3. DESTINATION

Our journey has a destination, even if we only see and experience it dimly. It is found in our shared experience of the cross, and allows access to the heart of God Almighty.

- The Celtic knot is a symbol of welcome, warmth and the radiant heart of God the Father

There are three big themes encompassing the pou:

1. WELCOME

Come on in, it doesn't matter who you are and where you are from, we will make space in this special place.

- Whāriki – the flax mat adorning the entranceway, a welcome sign and also used as a gift to seek forgiveness of an insult or offence
- Symbols for all the iwi we are welcoming – along with faces carved from different varieties of wood, there is a Māori koru, the flower representations from Asian and the Pacific, the Celtic knot symbols from Europe, the rainbow from the African continent, Moriori patiki stick figures, and the English agriculturalists.

2. JOURNEY

We are on a journey that is migratory in nature and transforming. While the pathway before us might narrow, there is still guidance and sustenance on the way.

- Ngongo - migrating cricket bird
- Hekenga – voyage of the waka and puhoro design (for speed)
- The three large piko/fern fronds represent past, present and future
- Te ara whāiti – the narrow path of the sweeping red panels on the left

3. DESTINATION

Our journey has a destination, even if we only see and experience it dimly. It is found in our shared experience of the cross, and allows access to the heart of God Almighty.

- The Celtic knot is a symbol of welcome, warmth and the radiant heart of God the Father