

Ted D'Auvergne Sculpture Fundraising Committee



In South Canterbury there is the Waihao Forks Hotel. A fundraising group was formed to raise awareness of local Waihao Downs WW2 soldier, Ted d'Auvergne, who left Waimate in 1940 for World War II vowing to return to finish a beer he left at the bar of the Waihao Forks Hotel. It is also to depict the rural soldier from small town New Zealand who went off to war and never returned. Private Ted d'Auvergne died on June 3, 1941 in Crete after he was injured in battle and ever since "Ted's bottle" has remained on display in a glass case in the hotel.

Nearly 80 years on a life sized bronze statue shows him sitting outside the hotel drinking a beer while waiting for the train.

An official unveiling was held in late 2020 – Waimate mayor Craig Rowley is pictured below at the official ceremony.

The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury granted \$9,900 towards the sculpture.

