



Media Release

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ANZ changing some ATMs to celebrate Matariki

To celebrate Matariki, the Māori New Year, ANZ New Zealand's Maori and Pasifika staff have had some of the frontages of ATMs redesigned in Auckland and Wellington.

Created by respected artist and carver Arekatera Maihi (who is of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei descent, but based in Whakatāne), the Matariki-themed ATMs are located at the bank's branches at 45 and 205 Queen St in Auckland and Willis Street in Wellington.

The idea came from staff involved in the bank's Maori and Pasifika Networking Group, said ANZ's Head of Corporate Affairs Peter Parussini.

"It was something the bank was very happy to support and we worked quickly to make it happen," Mr Parussini said. Themed ATMs are also likely to become more common, he said.

"We want to extend the idea and do more themed ATMs to celebrate other cultures and groups that contribute to our company's and New Zealand's diversity. We'll also look to create designs to celebrate Diwali, Chinese New Year and Gay and Lesbian Pride. But we wanted to start with something that acknowledged the important role Maori play as tangata whenua.

"Staff were keen for a contemporary design that told a story about Matariki. In future we'll look to have them in more centres."

Artist Arekatera Maihi says the design represents the Matariki constellation, and the circular elements are the movement of the Matariki in the sky. "Each of the lines are each of the individual stars. It's about the importance of Matariki to early Maori and how it's making a comeback."

Matariki is a time to reflect and prepare for coming seasons, said Mr Maihi. "It's awesome to see these ATMs – they allow you to know that you are here in Aotearoa."

ANZ has five staff affinity groups – Māori and Pasifika, Asian, Indian, Pride and Flexible Working Parents – and Mr Parussini says they are all about encouraging staff to be themselves at work.

The groups meet regularly and share their cultures and ideas with other staff, which often include celebrations of dance and food. On 11 July staff will gather for a Matariki meal and cultural performance in Auckland.

"We want to celebrate all the great people we have working at ANZ, and the Matariki-themed ATMs are part of that. We're proud of our diversity which we think makes us a stronger company."

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