



Exhibitions, News & Events

Quarterly newsletter of the Tairāwhiti Museum & Art Gallery
Te Whare Taonga o te Tairāwhiti
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SHOP

Our shop holds a fabulous range of product to choose from and we continue to add new items. Whether you are looking for a gift, wanting to send something overseas or buy a treat for yourself, there is something for everyone.

We believe there are some wonderful choices for all occasions, so do come and have a look. As always, the museum continues to support local artists including Seymour May, Julia Gould and Michael Stammers. All purchases at the museum shop provide funding for the museum so not only can you buy a fabulous present, but also support the museum at the same time. Friends of the Museum receive a 10% discount on all purchases (excluding sales).



You can now purchase museum publications from our new online shop.
www.tairawhitimuseum.org.nz

EXHIBIT CAFE



Great coffee and food, prepared daily. **Exhibit Cafe** is open for morning tea and lunch. Fresh and seasonal counter food or the blackboard menu. Gluten free and vegetarian options also available on request. Enjoy the sun on the deck with views of the river & park, or inside all year round in air-conditioned comfort.

Eugenie and her staff bake on the premises using predominantly local produce. **Exhibit Cafe** also offers catering services.

10% discount for Friends of the Museum

Winter opening hours: 9.30am to 1.00pm Monday to Friday, closed weekends.



Enquiries contact: Eugenie Dervin at Tairāwhiti Museum on (06) 867 3832. Mob: 021 222 7012. www.tairawhitimuseum.org.nz Facebook @ExhibitCafe

Mon. - Sat. 10am-4pm
Sun. 1.30pm-4pm
Stout Street • Gisborne
06 8673832



Review us on TripAdvisor

Tairāwhiti Museum

@Tairawhiti_muse

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@tairawhitimuseumgisborne

www.tairawhitimuseum.org.nz

CONNECT AND SHARE WITH US ONLINE

At the time of printing all events, openings and public programmes, including the Winter Sunday Concert Series, are cancelled until further notice. Please watch our website or follow us on Facebook for the latest information as we may be able to recommence our events programme as Covid-19 response guidelines change.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual membership is \$30 (individual), \$40 (family) and \$100 (business). Please visit our website or ask at reception for more information or to join.

Friends of the Museum receive a 10% discount in the museum shop and at Exhibit Café as well as on photographic prints and purchases of art works from selling exhibitions. Friends also receive a copy of the quarterly newsletter in the post. Invitations to exhibition previews and exclusive events and a 10% discount off the usual price for framing from Personality Framers.

Friends of Tairāwhiti Museum provide vital support to our activities – allowing us to purchase works for the collection, run activities and events, and fund projects which help maintain the museum. As a friend you are helping us ensure the museum stays a vibrant and exciting place to visit.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE MUSEUM

H B WILLIAMS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

New Normal

Autumn 2020 saw the country pull together and be kind to each other whilst working toward a common goal to protect each other and eliminate a viral disease. Covid-19.

Aotearoa shut down, lockdown was Alert Level 4 – the most stringent of social restrictions. Each person experienced and felt this time differently. Some enjoyed the warm weather and slower pace, pootled in the garden, others were devastated by job loss, rural drought, sudden poverty or plain terrified. Individuals and businesses alike quickly worked out there would be a 'new normal' and either shut up shop or strengthened online strands of communication and sale of goods. The events and stories site Gizzylocal.com promptly did a quick turn about to become the go to place to find stories living local treasures and people delivering of veges, coffee, dry goods.

The library fielded many calls from people who needed reading material. It wasn't until Alert Level 2 that books were able to be returned and quarantined for three days. Patrons had been keenly using the digital library – yes e-books may be loaned from the website - but they also wanted to visit their 'third place'.

In order to maintain social distancing and good hygiene services were restricted. Three key ways of visiting the library were introduced so patrons could whip into the library, grab their reading materials and safely go home.

Grab a Bag

of preselected books



A bag of large print crime novels, biographies of musicians, a bunch of teen movies were among the topics preselected by librarians. Reducing time spent in a public place was important to some people so patrons simply pick up a bag of their choice and took their lucky dip bag home.



-Eloise Wallace

We look forward to seeing you at the museum soon.

Staff are continuing to work on a suite of significant projects to support improved collections care and accessibility. We also have some new ideas and initiatives we are keen to try over this period – with a focus on supporting community well-being within the arts, heritage, education and tourism spheres. If you have an idea you'd like to explore please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

While the museum doors were closed, we came in every day to ensure the safety of the art and artefacts we hold within the museum, this being classified as an museum collections based work – from home. We also started a museum YouTube channel, and have posted some new video content which is proving popular – this includes our Tāwhero River film, a series of films focusing on site relating to Gisborne twentieth century military history, and films of our exhibiting artists – Tāwera Tahuri and Zoe Alford.

Looking ahead, we will be hoping to see a strong level of local visitation, and an increase in New Zealand visitors to our region and the museum, to make up for an expected reduction in international tourists over the summer months. If you have out-of-town visitors please encourage them to visit and post a review on TripAdvisor too.

Thank you to everyone who connected with us online during Level 3 and 4 lockdown, and who has come in to visit the museum, café, and shop since we reopened. During the winter months, most of our visitors are Tairāwhiti residents, and even though we are not yet able to hold exhibition previews and events (we'll let you know on social media if this situation changes) our changing exhibition programme continues (almost) uninterrupted. Please do make the time to come in and support our all-local line-up of exhibiting artists, we have all mediums from photography to sculpture to painting on display in the gallery this winter.

While we are still in a time of hopeful caution and uncertainty it is wonderful to be open again, to reconnect with our visitors and wider creative communities, and we hope to be able to continue with this as we move in to the Covid-19 recovery phase.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ring & Request

Your Library items



Similar to Grab a Bag but for patrons who prefer to make a phone call or send an email they choose their own topics and librarians curate a tailor-made selection of materials, ready for next day pick up.

Click & Collect

Choose books from home and pick up at the Library



Reserving a book from the comfort of home and whipping in to pick it up proved popular. Quick and easy book selection by librarians not only appealed to those able to call into the library but made life a bit easier for whānau who were tasked with 'choosing' for older family members.

These services were so well received they will remain as part of the – wait for it – 'new normal'. See you all soon, in person.

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS : June 2020 - August 2020

**Kahukura
Tāwera Tahuri**

28 March 2020 – 21 June 2020

Tāwera Tahuri is a multimedia artist who has, since graduating from Toi Houkura School of Māori Art and Design in 1997, achieved much at an international level. She travels extensively, representing Indigenous Māori artists on the global stage, her art serving as a conduit for her cultural and political activism.

In 2009 she was invited to exhibit at the prestigious Florence Biennale, which is held every two years and exhibits work by hundreds of invited artists from all over the world. She is currently a board member and secretary for Te Atinga the Contemporary Māori Visual Arts Committee and is the president and board member for The Seventh Generation Fund For Indigenous Issues based in the USA. The fundamental principle of this group is to maintain the hopes and aspirations of the future seven generations.

Tahuri is a passionate advocate for fresh waterways and is actively involved in the care and maintenance of sacred waterways. Her recent body of work is inspired by the revitalisation of her iwi and their Treaty of Waitangi land claim.



**East of the Sun
Zoe Alford**

4 April 2020 – 14 June 2020

Zoe seeks to make visible the extraordinary moments in the everyday landscape. Her work challenges us to view our surroundings with new eyes. Just as every tree has its time each year to stand out in its environment, there are times of every year when the angles of the sun, or the time of day gifts a familiar landscape with unexpectedly beautiful aspects. It has been a passion of Zoe's since childhood to capture such moments of fleeting beauty in the ordinary.

This act of bringing to light new perspectives parallels Zoe's work as a counsellor. Part of her practice is about inquiring into the moments of people's lives when they step outside taken-for-granted ways of thinking about problems. She works with people to recognise and capture these moments.

This exhibition brings together Zoe's paintings of the local landscape from the last two years. Her award-winning paintings are held in local, national and overseas collections.



Early Spring, Harper Road (detail)

**Tū te Whaihanga
A recognition of creative genius**

7 October 2019 – 11 October 2020

Sacred taonga that left the shores of Te Tairāwhiti 250 years ago have returned home for a year – long exhibition at Tairāwhiti Museum.

Tū te Whaihanga is the result of the determination by Tairāwhiti iwi for the taonga to return to reconnect with their descendants, to reclaim the knowledge they hold, and to sustain their legacy.

The 37 taonga in *Tū te Whaihanga* include some of those which left on board the HMS Endeavour, after its first voyage to Aotearoa in October 1769. The taonga include eight painted hoe paddles, traded and gifted at sea off Whareongaonga (south of Tūranganui-a-Kiwa) on October 12, 1769, and Te Pou pou o Hinematiaro from her whare on Te Pourewa Island on October 28, 1769. Other taonga include rākau (weapons), kākahu (cloaks), tātua (belts), whakairo (carvings) and adornments.



Kotiate detail.
Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

**Returning to the East
Ebony Whitaker**

29 May 2020 – 5 July 2020

Ebony Whitaker has created a visual feast of the changing beauty in the natural environment, reflecting his own change since returning to the East Coast of New Zealand after a decade away.

Ebony's journey as an artist started when he was a young grom surfing at Ōhope, Whakatāne. He started to surf semi-professionally and would travel to find the best surf, this brought him to Tairāwhiti. He has always had a love of the natural environment and he nurtured this when he was at art school in Far North Queensland, again, chasing warmer waters and waves.

He found that the perfect medium for him was landscape photography, capturing images in nature and developing them in his digital darkroom, to fully represent how he feels in the natural world.

Coming home after a decade in Australia, a very different person now living with a disability, has meant that the work has taken on a more personal and rueful edge.

To create these works Ebony must battle fatigue, body strain and cognitive issues to shoot and edit, but it is all worth it to this artist who lives and breathes the natural world.



Sunrise over exposed rocks, Pines, Wainui Beach

Beyond the Chair

20 June 2020 – 2 August 2020

Our group has a history of strong friendships, a constant sharing of knowledge, exhibiting and workshoping together for many years. Every second year we set ourselves a challenge – this year it is "to use the concept of a chair as a starting point and go beyond to see where it takes you, this can include fabric that has been stitched by hand or machine and finished as a quilted piece".

Over the years our confidence as a group has grown and with this we have pushed the boundaries of the perceived idea of what a quilt is.

Beyond The Chair is a collection of works taking a common domestic item and transforming it into a work of art.

Featuring textile artists Lina Marsh, Bronwyn Furlan, Irene Smith, Morva Thomson, Poll Williams, Kathy Grimson and Deb Williams.



Little Clown Chair
Morva Thomson

**The Sculptured Wall
Richard Rogers**

27 June 2020 – 23 August 2020

Retired art teacher Richard Rogers has decided that now is not the time to rest on his laurels. Probably better known as a painter, Rogers has frequently dabbled in sculptural works and for *The Sculptured Wall* he has gathered an army of his past creations – three-dimensional constructions fashioned over the past fifty plus years.

The Sculptured Wall is a story that weaves itself in and around the deliberation of Rogers' innovative and resourceful mind. In this exhibition we get to follow his development over decades, from very early works, to sculptures and paintings that relate, to works that combine painting and sculpture in the 'face' series, ending with recent 'fun works and experiments'.



Mite
[14006] Fine arts collection
Tairāwhiti Museum

**Pō! Pō!
Nikora Tori Te Kahu and Rangimarie Makowharemahihi-Pahi**

11 July 2020 – 6 September 2020

Pō! Pō! seeks to address the seriousness of mental health issues amongst Māori with a particular focus on the causes and effects for Māori women. We, as women, are the ūkaipō, the nurturing element for all – yet - where is our sanctum? Here we aim to provide a space for self healing and reflection.

Pō! Pō! acknowledges pōuri (sorrow), as we have come to know it, through generations of memories. Memories that speak of times when we had full knowledge of ourselves, of colonization, of war... and memories of ourselves in real-time as Māori.

Through mōteatea (chants), karakia (prayer) and the retracing of whakapapa (genealogy) we have found a doorway that enables us to understand and appreciate the past, as well as this new pōuri (sorrow) that we are feeling. Experience a sense of comfort... or discomfort within our installation of painting, sculpture and sound we aim to inspire a sense of enlightenment and well-being through a shared acknowledgement of pain.

-Nikora Tori Te Kahu



**Landscapes
Pru Davies**

8 August 2020 – 20 September 2020

East coast artist Pru Davies was born to paint and has the ability to turn her hand to any medium she fancies. An llam Fine Arts graduate, her artistic sensibilities nurtured and encouraged from the cradle to the healthy obsession of today. As a descendent of prominent 19th century artist Kennett Watkins, Davis' family ancestry is criss-crossed with artists from one generation to another.

'My latest exhibition of landscapes is based on the immediate and localised environment where I have lived for many years. These areas are all special places that I know and love, and I strive to capture some of the wild, rugged and beautiful energy that exists here. Featured in some of these works is the connective qualities between the natural and spiritual world that I see everyday and have endeavoured to capture on canvas.'



Beloved Horoera

Artists, Potters and Photographers

29 August 2020 – 10 November 2020

This year has been an unprecedented one. The worldwide pandemic and lock-down has for many artists put an end to that perpetual complaint, "I never have time!" and our annual exhibition will be a fabulous opportunity to view how Gisborne creatives have channelled this experience. A variety of mediums will be on show so something for everyone to enjoy.

Joining the Gisborne Artists' Society and the Gisborne Pottery Group again this year is the Gisborne Camera Club. An independent exhibition selector with strong artistic credibility decides on the work to hang on the walls of the exhibition, originality being the key-note for selection.

As always visitors will have the opportunity to purchase exhibited artworks in the annual show. When you support handmade you are not just supporting a person, small business, family, our economy, you are purchasing a small part of an artist's heart.

If you'd like to find out more about joining any of the exhibiting organisations you can find them on Facebook.

-Norman Maclean
President Gisborne Artists' Society



Growing Urge
Norman Maclean

Mahunga

The Mahunga Collection depicts the establishment of the Mahunga farm station situated on the Te Wera Road near Matawai. The images transport us to the early 1900s and an insight to family and farming life in an isolated rural environment.



On Te Wera Road

Posing, Not Posing

Photographs are for sharing and people have always wanted to look their best.

By taking a look back through the museum's collection in *Posing, Not Posing*, we not only seek to understand the history of portrait photography but understand how we present and see ourselves.



Lionel Sherriff

Long-term Exhibitions



Watersheds | Ngā Wai Pupū
Encounter famous people, significant events, interesting places and wonderful objects that tell the stories of arrival, survival, struggle and transformation which have shaped Tairāwhiti.

Te Moana Maritime Gallery
Glimpse into 1000 years of maritime myths, legends, stories and development in the Tairāwhiti East Coast region.



The Star of Canada
Explore the two-storied wheel-house and captain's cabin of the Star of Canada, a cargo steamer wrecked on rocks on the Gisborne foreshore on 23 June 1912.



Wyllie Cottage
Visit Wyllie Cottage, the oldest European house still standing in the Gisborne area. Recently restored with new displays.

**Jack C Richards
Decorative Arts Gallery**

This month the gallery sees the addition of three stone sculptures from the 'Lens' series by Auckland based artist John Edgar.

The stone sculptures are displayed adjacent to a showcase displaying geological specimens from the museum's Natural History collection, and trinket boxes from Richard's own collection. Considered as a whole, they illustrate the versatility of stone.

Edgar's raison d'être is to transform a base material in to a precious material, from the raw to the refined. He chooses base rocks, such as ōnewa (greywacke), pakohe (argillite), tahana (basalt), tokapata (granite) and pounamu (greenstone), which he likens to the bones of the earth, the basement of Aotearoa, and works them into shapes that both echo and defy their materiality.

John Edgar first developed the lens form in 2012. The Lens sculptures, as the name suggests, are sculpted disc shapes of one type of stone, with a central circular inset of an alternative stone. The earth and its place in the cosmos can be represented as a set of circles, each nesting inside another. This motif is echoed in Edgar's lenses, as each disc possesses a core that is at once part of and separate from the surrounding body.



Lenses
John Edgar