



Blue Lagoon - Susan Holmes

Tairāwhiti!

Quarterly newsletter of the Tairāwhiti Museum & Art Gallery
 Te Whare Taonga o te Tairāwhiti
 September 2023 ISSN 1177-5890

Exhibitions, News & Events

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

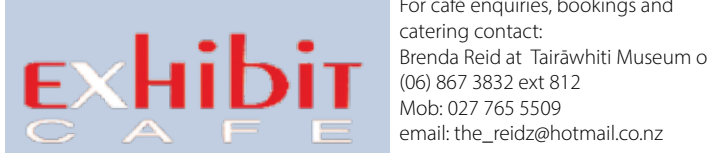


Great coffee, teas, smoothies, and freshly prepared food. Exhibit Café is open for morning tea and lunch. Enjoy fresh and seasonal counter food or select from the blackboard menu. Gluten free and vegetarian options also available on request. Enjoy the sun on the deck with views of the river and park, or inside all year round in air-conditioned comfort.

Exhibit Cafe also offers catering services.

10% discount for Friends of the Museum

Opening hours: 9.00am to 3.00pm Monday to Friday
 Saturday 10am – 2pm, Sunday closed



For café enquiries, bookings and catering contact:
 Brenda Reid at Tairāwhiti Museum on (06) 867 3832 ext 812
 Mob: 027 765 5509
 email: the_reidz@hotmail.co.nz

Te Whare Taonga o te Tairāwhiti
MUSEUM
 Stout Street • Gisborne
 Mon. - Sat. 10am-4pm
 Sun. 1.30pm-4pm
 06 8673832



Thank you to our exhibition preview sponsors

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 Review us on Tripadvisor
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www.tairawhitimuseum.org.nz

CONNECT AND SHARE WITH US ONLINE

Please sign up to our e-news, check our website or follow us on our social media pages for the most up-to-date information on museum events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Any donation you make will be invested, protected and grown each year, with surpluses investment income granted back to the museum annually. If you would like more information call Glenda at the Sunrise Foundation 06 867 7939 or visit www.sunrisefoundation.org.nz

Tairāwhiti Museum has recently established an endowment fund with The Sunrise Foundation to support collection development and care. We are grateful to Michael and Ann Muir for making a donation to establish the fund; and to Les McGeevy, who when he passed away in 2019 left a generous bequest to the museum which has now also been transferred to the fund.

TAIRĀWHITI MUSEUM ENDOWMENT FUND

H B WILLIAMS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

During the month of August you may have spotted the cheerful smile of Reference Librarian Zandria Taare on display in council facilities (and the odd billboard) across the motu.



“Our people ARE people” is the message Gisborne District Council are hoping the community will take on board after a significant increase in abuse and threats aimed at staff because of where we work.

Incidents have ranged from physical assault and verbal abuse to intimidation and low-level threatening behaviour. In addition more of these occurrences are requiring police involvement than ever before.

We are also seeing an increase in unacceptable online social media posts directed at individual staff members. As a result our people are feeling increasingly intimidated and scared. Despite this, the library team come to work every day committed to providing the best service possible for our patrons.

It can be challenging due to the diverse range of people who use the library. Consequently staff members can find themselves in the line of fire as they seek to maintain a safe and inspiring space for all. However we understand that these incidents are the exception and not the norm and are grateful for the ongoing patronage and manaakitanga of our community.

Without doubt the past few years have been increasingly challenging for people right across the region. Many of whom may be feeling hurt or frustrated. But to quote GDC Chief Executive Nedine Thatcher Swann;

“We may not always get things right, but our people are people, and abusive behaviour is not okay.
 We’re asking Tairāwhiti — please, treat people with kindness and respect”.

Prepared by Library Service Leader - Lois Haddon



See you at the museum soon
 Eloise Wallace

When you come in to the café make sure you see what's on offer in the galleries – we have a stunning and diverse array of temporary exhibitions this spring – including three that celebrate and share the art of textiles – from *He Kākahu Rerehua: The Uplifting Wind*, showcasing Māori garments from the collection, to the showstopping *Weavable Art* of New Zealand textile artist Susan Holmes and the woven sculptures of Michelle Kerr in *Purapura Wheetu*.

Don't forget the 10% discount at the café if you are a current friend of the Museum.
 Exhibit Café's new hours of operation will be weekdays from 9am – 3pm and we are delighted to announce the café will be reopening on Saturdays from 10am – 2pm, making it a great seated eating option if you are in town at the Gisborne Farmers Market.

After such a challenging beginning to 2023 in our region, the advent of spring and warmer and drier weather is something I'm sure we are all looking forward to. Spring also brings a change at Exhibit Café, with Eugenie Derwin moving on after six years as the friendly face of the café, serving us our morning coffee and delicious home baking with ingredients fresh from her orchard. We wish Eugenie and her family all the best for the future, but we know we'll continue to see her regularly at the museum, particularly as she has just joined our Friends of the Museum committee.

We are delighted to welcome Brenda Reid and her daughter Jade as the new licensees for Exhibit Café from 1 September. Brenda was born in Tairāwhiti and has raised her two daughters here with her husband Colin. She has a background in horticulture, but found a love of cooking and baking, which led to running a food trailer with her daughter, Brenda and Jade are looking forward to running Exhibit Café and getting to know all our regular patrons along with museum visitors from across New Zealand and around the world.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM

Kia ora from The Friends of the Museum

Our AGM was held in August and we're happy to report that our FoM subscriptions sit at around 350 members. Thank you all who subscribe as your donation assists our wonderful Tairāwhiti Museum in producing the newsletters, locally referenced art acquisitions and contributing towards costs of some events, purchases and shows.

Please encourage others to become a member whether individual (\$30), family (\$40) or business/organisation (\$100). We love our Tairāwhiti Museum and Art Gallery and love supporting our valuable community resource. Subscriptions can be paid online at tairawhitimuseum.org.nz or at the reception desk. Ngā mihi.

Unfortunately, our Facebook Friends of the Museum page got hacked a few months ago! So, if you follow us on Facebook please "like" our new, replacement page if you haven't already done so.

After several difficult years for our community with Covid then severe weather events we are looking forward to restarting our lecture series next year and are hoping to have a "taster" before the end of the year. If you have ideas about local speakers on art or history please contact friendsoftairawhitimuseum@gmail.com.

Do mark 12th November in your diaries as we will be holding a lovely event to bestow Life Membership on several of our Museum's extraordinary volunteers. See you there!

Ka kite ano Clare Robinson, Chairperson Friends of the Museum Committee



Scott, Tish. *Our Dwelling Place is Almost the Unimaginable*, 2018. [46186] Recent acquisition by the Friends of the Museum for the Tairāwhiti Museum collection.

MUSEUM TRUST BOARD UPDATE

Jennie Harré Hindmarsh has been appointed by the Friends of the Museum to the museum trust board for a three-year term.

Jennie has worked in New Zealand in a variety of roles in the museum, heritage and education sectors and brings extensive community governance experience and local networks to the trust board.

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS : September 2023 - November 2023

Whakawhetu

Maia Keane

14 July 2023 – 24 September 2023

Whakawhetu re-imagines atua Matariki using Toi Māori elements from a fresh and fun perspective.

Follow artist Maia Keane on her discovery into the connections between Te iwa o Matariki and our natural environment. The paintings displayed in this exhibition are documents of learning, combining traditional Māori patterns and vibrant colour combinations to express what each star in the Matariki cluster represents.

Maia is a painter, graphic designer, curator whose work embraces and reacts to her endless journey into her māoritanga. She was born and raised in West Auckland and has iwi affiliations to Ngai Tāmanuhiri and Rongowhakaata.

Drawing inspiration from kōwhaiwhai experts such as John Hovell and Ngataiharuru Taepa, Maia has developed her design style of bold figurative work for over the past 3 years. This show marks the first solo exhibition in her career.

We encourage you to use this exhibition as an opportunity to venture into your own discovery of the traditional use of Matariki, but also, the ways that you choose to embrace and celebrate it today.



Matariki Muva - Maia Keane

He Kākahu Rerehua The Uplifting Wind

Opening 1 October 2023

"E Taha, kei te kaha whiti mai i te rā, ēngari, kei te mau koe tou pāke," ko te pātai ā Tapuae. Engari, ko te whakahoki ā Taharakau, "He roa ā raro, He tata ā runga" Ka mau a Tapuae tōna korowai tino ataahua nei, ēngari, kātahi anō ka tino mōhio te tikanga o ngā kōrero a Taharākau."

Nāu mai Kuhu mai rā ki ngā tāonga korero o ngā kākahu kei te Whare Tāonga o te Tairāwhiti. Kei te whakarite tētahi whakaaturanga kākahu e kii ana – He Kākahu Rerehua.

He whakaaturanga kākahu i te hononga tangata, te hononga Whenua me te hononga Wairua, me te ataahuatanga o ngā āhuatanga katoa o ngā kākahu arā, He Kākahu Rerehua.

"Taha, the sun is shining, and you are only wearing your Pāke!" A Pāke is a small raincoat. Taharakau's reply was short. "He roa ā raro, he tata ā runga," meaning simply "It is fine, initially the travel is long, but once we move higher, we are closer to our destination." Tamatea adorned himself with a beautiful kahu hururu, a feathered cloak, and wondered as to the meaning of Taha's words.

If you are wondering just like Tamatea join us for He Kākahu Rerehua, an exhibition; collection care project and wānanga celebrating the exquisite kākahu (Māori garments) cared for by the museum.

Follow this project by connecting with the team on Facebook and Instagram, search Tairāwhiti Kaitieki Māori.

Supported by Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage

Dreamers

Louise Walsh & Jolene Douglas

5 August 2023 – 1 October 2023

Walsh's new works follow life's ebb and flow, ups and downs and her insecurities about her work. Each work stems from her first piece, The Beginning, its simple lines and colours, creating an overall pattern and base for other works.

"These last few 'Covid years' have been hard for us all. Like many others, I have lost significant people, including my beautiful, artistic full-of-life mother. Painting through this time has been cathartic and fulfilling, not always plain sailing. I responded to each in different ways, using layering to build the surfaces and effects which may have taken days or months. The works are unplanned, sometimes exciting, and other times a tricky puzzle. The journey was a thrill for me."

In my Wilderness We live in Mansions is a series of pastels by Douglas created for the exhibition Dreamers – a collection of dreamscapes - mystical, magical, botanical.

In each work the artist opens a door to the memories that are housed within these mansions, where stories sometimes wild and rambling, occasionally sorrowful, are relayed through personified plant forms. Each plant offers up its own story alluding to its magical qualities that have the power to heal and to nurture. Interwoven within these wilderness stories are the mystical threads of mythology.



Flowers for Phylly (mum)- Louise Walsh

Breathe

Maiko Lewis-Whaanga

7 October 2023 – 3 December 2023
Opening 6 October, 5:30pm

Pause.
Inhale slowly.
Exhale slowly.

Seven years ago Maiko realised the power of breath during the birth of her son. Now, at Te Wharau School, Maiko teaches tamariki about this power we all have, yet often take for granted teaching mindfulness and breathing practices.

The last few years have been challenging for us all. This has been the catalyst for Maiko to create a space that reconnects herself and the viewer back to this basic, biological function - the breath and its power to create a sense of calm in a busy and uncertain world. Connecting to her heritage, Maiko draws upon a Japanese aesthetic, Shibumi, a concept based around simplicity, refinement, harmony, and balance. Wabi Sabi is another aesthetic that Maiko is learning to embrace; beauty found in imperfection and impermanence.

Last year Maiko introduced her concept to Sheryl Edwards who has also spent time in Japan. There she was inspired by the seamless relation between tradition and technology. Sheryl has helped support and conceptualise ideas for this exhibition. She is also creating her own piece to be displayed.



Kokyu Suru - Maiko Lewis-Whaanga

What they didn't teach us at school

Clayton Gibson

22 July 2023 – 17 September 2023

My oil paintings express my personal articulation of the realities of the human condition. I am profoundly aware of the relationship between human beings and their environment. Utilising this awareness, I have selected and painted pivotal and recognisable events in our history which were not taught to us in school during the 1960s and 70s. Events that by not being taught, influenced our thinking at the time and our concept of our nation's history.

I have used a limited palette and simplified figurative work to create powerful and evocative subject matter. The events and images that I have painted all reflect my understanding of pūrākau read or told to me, my observations, of local landscape and my thoughts about historical events. I have woven the paintings into a complex web of stories that stretch over a wide period of history from the arrival of Captain Cook in 1769 to today.

My paintings combine a tension and personal narrative centred on social issues in Aotearoa history and the socio-political world of the distinctly Aotearoa social and political landscape. In my work I emphasise my vision of an Aotearoa identity.



Names in the Sand - Clayton Gibson

The Millard Studio

11 November 2023 – 28 January 2024
Opening 10 November, 5:30pm

Edward Arthur Millard established and operated a photographic studio in Gisborne from 1915 until his untimely death in 1933. Evidence of his fine camera skills are found amongst a few surviving prints in the museum's collection.

Glass plates, negatives, hand-coloured prints, long thought destroyed, were found and donated to the museum. Working through this material, a story unfolded of the life and trials of the talented Millard family.

It became evident that many wonderful images were made after the death of Edward, his wife Nellie, five daughters and one son, all took up the studio work under the name of the Millard Studio.

The Millard Studio exhibition displays many fine portraits taken in the early 1900s, costumes of the time, significant locals and groups are reprinted in large format to show their glamour and detail.



Miss Nell Millard

Wearable Art

Susan Holmes

26 August 2023 – 5 November 2023

These are sculptural one-off showpiece garments that tell the story of my life in Textile Art over half a century.

At the age of 30 I had the great good luck to discover how to print designs on fabric. My friend and I were trying out potato prints with heat set dye and I got so excited that I immediately made a printed scarf. Within six weeks I had given up my job as a science teacher and was making and selling scarves and garments for a living. Over the years I must have made thousands of hand dyed, hand printed garments and sold almost all of them.

Now, 50 years later, just about the only garments that I still own are those that I made for that wonderful show NZ World of Wearable Art. And here they are!



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Up the Coast

1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

Up the coast. That's where I'm from.
Up the coast. That's where I'm going.

Up The Coast is an exhibition that looks at some of the lesser known images in the Tairāwhiti Museum photographic collection. Those that have made it up the coast to live or visit have found a unique part of Aotearoa/New Zealand. The photographs within this exhibition showcase some of that uniqueness.



Places and Faces

Fred Foster found a way to make a dollar. Well pre-decimal pounds actually. His plan was to learn how to use a camera and make photographs. That accomplished he took his camera and his sale like charms to his neighbourhood. Knocking on the doors of homes, many newly built, he would talk the lady of the house into have her and her family photographed in front of their home.

This exhibition displays the results of those whom posed for Foster in the early 1900s.



Rima Tekau

Melanie Tahata

23 September 2023 – 10 December 2023
Opening 22 September, 5:30pm

Rima Tekau is a sharing and expression of Whānaungatanga, of Toi Māori and most importantly, Aroha.

Sharing this milestone in her creative life-path, multi-disciplinary artist Melanie Tahata has curated a solo exhibition of whānau archives alongside a selection of older and recent works.

Tākina ko au, tākina ko koe
Te Kura Māhukihuki

Born and raised in Puhī Kaiti, Tūranganui-a-Kiwa (Kaiti, Gisborne), Melanie Tahata is a sculptor, graphic designer, filmmaker, writer, producer, educationalist but most importantly, a mother.

In 1997 she completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts at Elam thereafter moving around the North Island, producing gothic, punk and heavy metal gigs. In 2005 she returned to her hometown to raise her son where she has become committed and proactive in community and iwi projects.

She is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Te Kura Reo Rua o Waikirikiriri and has a Master of Professional Creative Practice with Distinction which she received in 2019.

During the past year Mel has been immersing herself in the traditional art of printmaking within the Gisborne Printmaker's Group.



Wa Ngeru

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.

Purapura Whetu

Michelle Hinekura Kerr

30 September 2023 – 26 November 2023

"This exhibition is made up of woven sculptures that recall the ancestral stories of the whanau marama, the celestial family of light.

Each piece is made from native fibre whilst using indigenous techniques and designs."

Multimedia artist Michelle Hinekura Kerr grew up in Uawa/Tolaga Bay and came from a family background of proficient kai raranga/weavers.

For this exhibition Kerr will focus on her weaving and sculptural skills.

It should be noted that many of her fibre art pieces are suitable to be worn, and she will often stretch the boundaries of tradition raranga to create a contemporary style recognised as her own.

In lieu of an opening the artist will offer a series of 'bangle' workshops on Saturday 30th September.

Numbers will be limited, enquiries to museum reception.



Recent Acquisitions

When communications went down in Gisborne during Cyclone Gabrielle, MORE FM's Bevan Chapman slept in the studio and kept on broadcasting. He was a lifeline for our community, relaying messages over the radio at a time when there were few other ways to communicate with each other.

Many of us will remember heading up to the radio station and slipping a hand-written note under the door for Bevan to share. Bevan recently gifted all these carefully saved notes and messages to the museum. These will become part of our collection and kept forever as a tangible record of how our communities responded and supported each other during the disaster.



Bevan Chapman and Eloise Wallace