



www.tairawhitimuseum.org.nz

Tairāwhiti MUSEUM

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE MUSEUM

Friends of the 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 can take advantage of free admission to the museum, a 10% discount in the museum shop, Exhibit café and on exhibition purchases, as well as invitations to exhibition previews and exclusive events. Friends also receive a 10% discount off the usual price for art supplies and framing from Personality Framers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 15 March, 5.30pm FREE entry
Artist Steve Gibbs presents a talk on his exhibition a-hoe!

Thursday 23 March, 5-7pm FREE entry
Symposium: Te Kooti Rikirangi Te Turuki and his influence on Māori Visual Art
 Toihoukura, EIT, tel: 0272617777 for enquiries

Friday 24 March, 5pm, FREE entry
Re-enactment, exhibition opening, book launch and floor talk for Recovery: Women who served Overseas in WW1

Sunday concert series, second Sunday of every month between May and September, 2pm
 Adults \$5, Students with ID and children free
 With thanks to Professor Jack Richards

School holiday programmes 18 – 28 April
 Full schedule to be announced soon, see Facebook for more information

Like us on Facebook and follow our blog to keep up to date with stories, events and goings-on at Tairāwhiti Museum.

<https://www.facebook.com/tairawhitimuseumgisborne>



<https://tairawhitimuseum.wordpress.com/>



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

FROM THE DIRECTOR

One of the most rewarding aspects of working in a museum is the act of recovery – regaining knowledge of what has been lost.

Too often it is women's stories, experiences and perspectives that fall to the margins of our histories. We are now commemorating the centenary of the First World War, and women, if they appear at all are predominantly presented as passive – sitting at home, knitting, waiting for news of their loved ones abroad.

Recovery, our new exhibition and publication curated and written by EIT Research Professor Kay Morris Matthews, presents the narratives of women from Tairāwhiti who served overseas in the war. Kay's research turns passive notions of women's war work on their head. The East Coast women she profiles were brave, respected, strong, energetic and able leaders, professionally accomplished and endured significant hardships in the course of their war work. With this project we tell their fascinating stories for the first time. I am grateful that the museum has been able to work in partnership with Kay to recover and raise up these unacknowledged women.

Connections with this project continue across our other exhibitions. Lady Hēni Meroa Carroll, whose story features prominently in the neighbouring Ko Rongowhakaata exhibition received an OBE in 1918 for services to the community during the First World War.

In undertaking our research for the new Wyllie Cottage displays, we found that here too it was the voices of women that spoke most loudly to us. From the cottage's first occupant Keita Wyllie, a respected Māori woman and political leader in our community, to her daughter Kate, said to have been the first woman of Māori descent to train as a nurse (in 1901). To Gisborne's remarkable Isabella Rees, who organised theatrical performances for the Allied Forces in England and France during the First World War. Many of the women of Wyllie Cottage have played active roles in the business, professional and political life of Gisborne.

The recovery business often takes us to places, and to stories and people we don't expect. At Tairāwhiti Museum one of our most important duties is to challenge preconceived ideas of the past. To do this we must continue to pursue and prioritise the recovery and telling of hidden stories and the people that are not found within the dominant historical narratives of our history books.

- Eloise Wallace



Sister Dora Gill (standing left), Nurses accommodation, Salonika, 1917. Collection Tairāwhiti Museum

Exhibitions, News & Events

Quarterly newsletter of the Tairāwhiti Museum & Art Gallery
 Te Whare Taonga o te Tairāwhiti
 March 2017 ISSN 117-4975



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, Hugh Lloyd, Michael Stammers and Christine Page. 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).



EXHIBIT CAFE



Great coffee and food, prepared daily, served with a smile. **Exhibit Café** is open for lunches, brunches and morning and afternoon teas. Select from the delicious options on the blackboard menu with gluten free and vegetarian options available. Dine in the sun on wide decks overlooking the park or inside in year round air-conditioned comfort.

Moy Chan and her staff do all the baking on the premises, use predominantly local ingredients and cater to a variety of dietary needs including gluten free options. Exhibit Café offers catering services for meetings, courses and exhibition openings.

10% discount for Friends of the Museum

Opening hours: 10.00am to 3.00pm. Monday to Friday and 10.00am to 2.00pm Saturday. Closed Sundays.



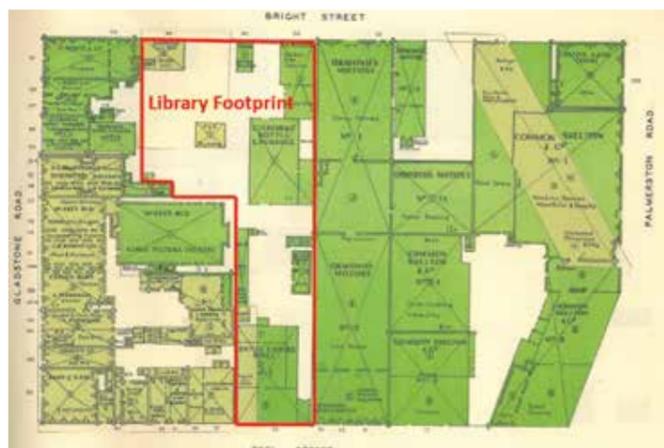
Enquiries contact: Moy Chan at the Tairāwhiti Museum on (06) 867 3832. Mob: 027 415 701. Email: moyzie_exhibit@yahoo.co.nz

H B WILLIAMS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Tūranga's Libraries

Tūranga Library, for that was the first official name, has by New Zealand standards had a long history. The first library was opened in 1869 in a room in the old courthouse, when we had no railways, no roads overland and visitors came on horseback or by the occasional schooner. In 1874 the library was renamed Gisborne Public Library. After moving several times the library began its rather odd association with local taverns. Money was borrowed in 1883 and a building completed next to the then Masonic hotel, the library was renamed Tūranganui Public Library. 1934 saw a move to the Albion Hotel building on Gladstone Road and stayed there until 1967.

During that time the Library Committee changed the structure from a subscription library to a free service with governance taken over jointly by the Cook County Council and Gisborne City Council. In 1967 another change of name and a move to the old British Empire Hotel site in Peel Street saw the erection of H B Williams Memorial Library.



The Williams family chose and acquired the land and met the cost of the new building. The land was designated 'for library purposes' and included what became the Library carpark and Library Park. The intention was that an extension of the building into the unused land would occur by 1975. The building itself is a stunning example of modernist design that has stood the test of time, and built with quality materials. The interior layout was studied by architects from throughout the world as a model for many other city libraries. Previously libraries had been a series of quiet rooms so the open plan format that was inclusive of all people was adventurous at the time yet is the standard today.



Fast forward 50 years, incorporate technological equipment and changes in demand from users and the Gisborne library service had well and truly outgrown its space. After several years consulting with the community via Gisborne District Council's annual plan submitters were starting to say 'get on with it'. An expansion that would bring the building up to a reasonable size, improve the seismic resistance strength, cover some deferred maintenance, include space for teenagers, quiet spaces for study, a community meeting space that could be used after hours, improve access for physically challenged people, embrace technology, and be flexible enough for any future need was approved by Council.

The design respects and preserves the original building even with a radial swing around to make the main entrance at the Bright Street end of the site.. Features include incorporating the history of the area and people into the design as well as visual links to other civic projects such as the recently minted cycle and walkways. A pocket park with seating will wrap across the frontage and down the side linking the block into Treble Court.



Along with ECT, Stan Green Estate, Hannah Dunlop Estate, Jessie Iris Jeffreys Estate, and ECCT it is gratifying and humbling to see the Williams Family continue to significantly support the library nearly 60 years after gifting the building and land in memory of their Grandfather. In that time there have been millions of visitors to the library and a myriad of changes since that one room library was opened in 1869.

What we can count on is that after 50 years of valiant support the library name will remain HB Williams Memorial Library.



EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS : March 2017 - May 2017

Ko Rongowhakaata

17 December 2016 – 21 May 2017

Mauri Tangata
Mauri Kōrero
Mauri Whenua

Te kotahi ā Tūrāhiri, ripo ana te moana.

Descendants of Tūrāhiri, ancestress of the Rongowhakaata people, are progenitors of unique talents, innovation and craftsmanship; a quality that has rippled and propagated throughout the land and throughout Rongowhakaata history. These qualities continue to exist in the Rongowhakaata uri (descendants) today and will be reflected in this exhibition.

This exhibition is the second part of a three-part exhibition series for Rongowhakaata. Part one was the successful Rongowhakaata marae based exhibition earlier this year and part three will be the iwi exhibition at Te Papa Tongarewa in 2017. This exhibition is about Rongowhakaata reaffirming who they are as a people, and re-telling their stories in their homelands so that the next generation can hear, see, and feel Rongowhakaata history and the unique experiences that build the fabric of the Rongowhakaata people. It is an immersion into facets of the world of Rongowhakaata people, both old and new, as expressed through their historical and contemporary arts.



Kōwhaiwhai panel (section) from Manutūke Church, 1849-1881

a-hoe! Steve Gibbs

21 January 2017 – 19 March 2017

a-hoe! [a'hɔɪ]

exclamation. *Nautical.*

'a', an English particle and, 'hoe', a Māori term for 'paddle'. Adapted from the English exclamation 'ahoy'; a call used to greet someone or draw attention to something from a distance: *ahoy there!* | *land ahoy!*

SEE: *waka, water, travel, time - Wā*

ORIGIN

mid 18th cent.: from ah + hoy1

a-hoe!. A series of works based on the first and subsequent encounters that took place between Tangata whenua and tauwi in Tūranganui a Kiwa.

- a metaphor for travel through water, time and space.
- the cultural disconnect when taonga tuku iho are removed from cultural memory
- The journey that we as people have been on since those initial encounters

Steve Gibbs



Name Changer

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.

RECOVERY: Women Who Served Overseas In World War One

24 March 2017 – 16 July 2017
Opening & book launch 5pm 24 March

Making visible the work that New Zealand women undertook overseas during World War One (WW1) is what this exhibition is about. I wanted to recover a range of New Zealand women's work outside of New Zealand during WW1 as well as the research I undertook to recover their stories.

The women featured have connections to the East Coast. Between 1915 and 1919 they served with the armed services or as volunteers with 12 different service organisations within war zones in Turkey, Egypt, France, Serbia, Greece, Italy, Palestine, East Africa as well as in England. Many were highly decorated. All who served had their lives changed forever. That so many women and men from the East Coast served overseas in WW1 is remarkable for the relatively small population at the time.

Because only a sample of the women could be included in the Exhibition I have written a 172 page illustrated book providing further detail plus annotated profiles of other women from the East Coast who served overseas in WW1.

This exhibition is the result of collaboration between the Tairāwhiti Museum, the Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT), *The Gisborne Herald* and the Nurses and Midwives of Tairāwhiti (NAMOT).

Kay Morris Matthews



Jack C Richards Decorative Arts Gallery

April will see another changeover in the Jack C Richards Decorative Arts Gallery. A highlight of the new objects in the gallery is *David Hockney. A Bigger Book*. This is exactly what it sounds like, a book of extra-large proportions which shows the work of British artist David Hockney. The book is one of 10,000, each numbered as a unique part of the series, and includes over 450 of the popular painter's works. The artist was heavily involved in the production of the book and sees it as an exhibition in book form. The book also comes with its own display stand, designed by Australian designer Marc Newson, which echoes Hockney's preference for bright, primary colours.

Hockney has described the book as an autobiography in pictures, which includes works from his early days at the Bradford School of Art, the development of his work in the 1960s in London right up to his most recent painting, *Garden with Blue Terrace*, of his Los Angeles home. His love of experimentation is present in the format of the book as well as the content, as paintings, drawings, photocomposites, multiperspective collages, stage designs and multi-camera video works all feature.

Large-scale works and bright colours have long been associated with Hockney's works. Titles such as *A Bigger Grand Canyon*, *Bigger Trees near Watter* and *A Bigger Splash* illustrate this, and the book has a number of fold-out pages to better show the scale of some of the artist's works.



Wyllie Cottage Heritage Restoration

After being closed for repair and renovation Wyllie Cottage re-opened on the 23rd February.

Passers-by will have already noticed the distinctive three colour paint scheme used on the exterior. However the inside is relatively monochromatic. Before the colour was chosen Tracey Hartley of Salmond Reed Architects took paint samples in all the rooms. The colour she selected is as true as possible to the lighter creams and browns found in the earlier layers of paint.

In keeping with established conservation principles the preference has been to repair rather than replace. When it was not possible to make repairs, the replacement timber used came from Scott Bothwell's store of materials which have been salvaged over the years from local demolitions. It is this kind of attention to detail that has ensured that the cottage is now structurally as close to the appearance of the 1886 renovation as we can get it.

Another change is that people will be able to go into the rooms. This is a great way to appreciate the scale of the building and really imagine what it might have been like to live in it.



Each refurbishment has provided us with an opportunity to tell different stories which have the cottage at their heart. This time we have chosen to try and talk about all the families – a surprising number – who have, however briefly, called the cottage "home". This approach would not have been possible without the generosity of those who were willing to share their family stories and photographs.

We now know a lot more about the inhabitants and their lives than we did previously, but the story of the cottage is far from complete. The fact that the cottage has re-opened does not mean that we are no longer collecting information – on the contrary, we hope that the new displays will encourage visitors to share more stories with us.

-Christine Page, Wyllie Cottage project curator

Gladstone Road



Gladstone Road, named after British Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone, has been the main street of Gisborne (Tūranga) since its establishment in the late 1860s. Hotels, banks, retailers, churches, halls, theatres, a post office, a courthouse, a newspaper have all resided on Gladstone Road.

The popularity of Gladstone Road has ensured its capture by way of photography. The museum photographic collection has a good coverage of the central business area over a number of decades. The Gladstone Road exhibition features some of the more interesting images of the road and the buildings associated with it.

In 1975 a photographic survey of Gladstone Road from Reads Quay to Roebuck Road was made by a university student and donated to the museum. A similar survey was made in 1993. Maybe it is time to produce another? The 1975 photographs will be 'merged' together resulting in a long continuous view of each side of Gladstone that runs along the walls of the photographic gallery.

Intervention Series John Roy

Tauranga based artist John Roy is noted for his highly decorative, figurative ceramics. His current touring 'Intervention series' are wall-based installations which occupy spaces in unexpected ways.

'I see interventions as an interesting way of creating dialogues with gallery space, how we look at the space. These ceramic works act as colourful abstract patterns creeping across the wall or lurking in corners. In this way the installation has multiple interpretations depending on personal experiences.'



Exile

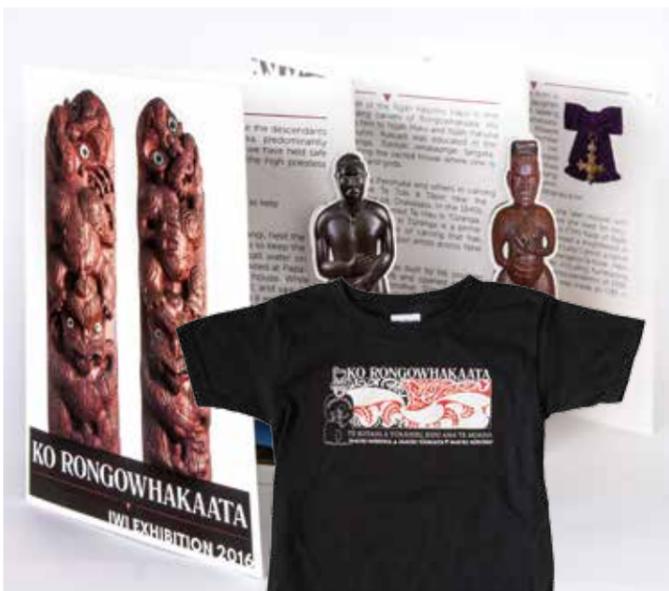
Mahunga

Family photographs are one of our greatest personal treasures. The family photo album is the one item people consider they would 'grab' in a fire. We see them as a collection of life's memories rather than an assemblage of images.

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



Mahunga



Ko Rongowhakaata merchandise available now. T-shirts \$25



Kay Morris Matthews

Recovery by Kay Morris Matthews (published by Tairāwhiti Museum and EIT) – on sale at Tairāwhiti Museum from 24 March 2017 \$35