

NATIONAL SERVICES TE PAERANGI

*Hono ki
Te Papa*

*Working together
with Te Papa*

Autumn 2011

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National Services Te Paerangi e-newsletter

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Kia ora from the General Manager

The beginning of 2011 has been a shaky one both here and further afield.

The Christchurch earthquake in February was, of course, an enormously profound event and shocked the entire nation with its violence and the cataclysmic damage caused right in the heart of the city. It seems so unfair that a city already damaged by the September earthquake – and dealt with tragedy close to home at the Pike River Mine – once again had to clean up the mess, pick up the pieces, and comfort the grieving. The people of Christchurch have done just that and have demonstrated tremendous resilience – as have museums, galleries, and iwi organisations that have had to patiently wait for access to their buildings and collections.

Since the quake, National Services Te Paerangi has been working alongside a number of organisations affected by that event to assist with thinking about recovery, repair and reimagining the future. I would like to remind Christchurch colleagues that [we are here to assist](#).

News, NZ Museums and blogs

Adrienne Rewi's first quake blog of six: 'But for all the sadness and destruction there have been dozens of positive stories. The public sculptures that stood firm while everything crashed around them; the artists who banded together to stage exhibitions and raise funds for their struggling friends; the teams who set about saving as many artworks throughout the city as possible. Those are the things I like to focus on and I'll be visiting all of those subjects on this blog in the coming weeks:'
<http://www.nzmuseums.co.nz/news/after-shock> [Continue reading](#)

Previously, Andrea Bell also reported from Christchurch: 'For the postponed SCAPE we had intended to highlight the role artists' projects can play in contributing to discussions about urban regeneration, a topic that had become especially pertinent since September.' [Continue reading](#)

Q&A, Kate Woods, City Gallery Wellington



Kate Woods joined the City Gallery Wellington in 2003 and her current role is Assistant Registrar/Preparator. She works in the exhibitions team, which has three other members, but also works closely with other gallery staff.

What is your career highlight?

Being part of the team installing Yayoi Kusama: Mirrored Years. It was an incredible experience working with people, including two of Kusama's studio assistants, installing the exhibition, and then seeing visitor's surprise and delight on viewing. During the exhibition, I made many visits to the wonderful infinity mirror room Fireflies on the water. However, since then I have stopped wearing anything spotted.

What did you like about Bar Camp 2011?

I thought BarCamp was really successful. It was a great chance to talk to colleagues about relevant topics and hear everyone's advice and experience first-hand, as well as being able to add to the discussion.

New Zealand is a country fortunate in the breadth and diversity of its museums. Colleagues overseas are often surprised by the number of museums we do have, and more often than not, are also highly impressed with the great work those museums do. [Continue reading](#)

Q&A, Bridget Wellwood, Eketehuna and Districts Early Settler Museum

What do you see as your museum's strengths?

Eketehuna and District Early Settlers Museum is a lot like so many little small town museums – wonderful but terrible. The real strength of the museum lies in the people, the community spirit, the generosity and philanthropy that have kept the place going, against all odds. Today, the new team are faced with the same old challenges; hopefully it will be our ability to think outside the square and come up with creative solutions to not only keep the wolf from the door, but to keep people interested, having fun and learning.

Tell us your pet museum or gallery displeasure?

Silence! I hate museums where noone says a word, there's no music, no sound at all except maybe a pin dropping. Sound effects can be so effective in bringing objects to life, the clip clop of horses, birds tweeting, old soundtracks playing, anything is better than the maudlin silence that fills dusty galleries and unloved museums. At least whistle.

[Continue reading](#)



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Ian's Diary

Well, things continue to be interesting! Since my last diary I've been visiting some of the fine museums and galleries in winterless Northland, but have also been helping out with post-quake collection storage for the Centre of Contemporary Art in Christchurch.

While in Northland I visited the Kauri Museum at Matakohe. Curator Betty Nelley and Collection Manager Andrea Hemmins showed me around their remarkable museum. The Kauri Museum is an entirely self-funding enterprise, 30 km from the main road and in the middle of rural Kaipara. Under these circumstances, how have they grown to be so successful? It was like there was a tour bus convention on, rather than just another day in Matakohe! Betty Nelley tells me the key to their success has been involving their community in everything they do, and detailed forward planning.

[Continue reading](#)

Judith's Diary

National Services Te Paerangi has been working in collaboration with Canterbury museums to provide support since the September and February earthquakes. A small team gathered in March to give hands-on assistance for packaging and transportation, and we are providing Helping Hands Grants for museums that need assistance with moving items to safe storage.

Many museum people have expressed frustration at not being able to give on-site support for recovery of cultural material. Museums and collections are still being assessed, with some unable to gain safe access to their buildings. Many needs are being met locally with the assistance of unaffected museums. Collections that have been removed to safer storage include parts of collections from Lyttelton, Methven, Sumner, and COCA (Centre of Contemporary Art). Assessment will continue for many months, and needs will become clearer as time goes on. [Continue reading](#)

Gavin's Diary

He mihi nui ki a koutou katoa. A big kia ora to you all. We have been busy this year facilitating workshops around the country, getting out and about amongst iwi, and visiting some of the small museums.

Every area has its own history, mana, and interesting stories, and I know that we are blessed to be able to listen and share these with the iwi. [Continue reading](#)

Staff Profile

National Services Te Paerangi is pleased to have Karin Walsweer doing an internship with the team. Karin has joined us from Holland in her 3rd year studying Cultural Heritage in Amsterdam, and is with us until mid June. She finished her minor in Exhibition Direction and since has gained experience around collection management during her previous internship at the Drents Museum Assen in the Netherlands. While in future Karin hopes to do project management work, she is enjoying her time, saying that 'working with National Services Te Paerangi and Te Papa in general has definitely shown her a unique view into the museum world. It has been a good and exciting time so far!'

Meanwhile, Tracy Puklowski has been seconded to the role of Senior Operations Manager, Collections and Research. In her absence, Victoria Esson is Acting General Manager, National Services Te Paerangi.

Workshops and events

Te Manawa seminar

Come along and listen to Te Papa Tongarewa experts talk about their fields of knowledge, and how you can be involved in future education workshops and programmes in your iwi rohe. Kōrero from NSTP Kylie Ngaropo and Gavin Reedy, conservators Vicki-Anne Heikell and Rangi Te Kanawa, and photographer Michael Hall. Te Manawa Museum, Palmerston North, 19 May 2011, 12.30pm. Phone 0508 NSTP HELP (0508 678 743) for more information.

Mamas and Museums

Mamas and Museums: Pacific Women's Fine Arts and Museums Forum and Workshop, supported by National Services Te Paerangi, looks to create mutual understanding and foster better communication, between Pacific women artists and and museum professionals from organisations like Te Papa. More [here](#).

Māori and Pacific Textile Symposium

The beating of aute, or tapa, is a heartbeat that resounds across the ocean of Kiwa. The harakeke of Aotearoa, symbolising family, acknowledges the relationship of the Pacific people as one, through weaving. These genealogical and material connections will be explored at the inaugural 2011 Māori and Pacific Textiles Symposium, hosted by the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington. The symposium website, including info on registering online, is [here](#).

[Read more](#)

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