



Come to this year's AGM ... and hear all about Kai Tahi – the exciting, innovative new space on Porirua Waterfront

Our guest speaker is Paul Robinson, Executive Director of Woolstore Management Ltd and a long-serving member of the Pātaka Foundation, who will talk about **Kai Tahi**.

Have you driven along Parumoana Street and wondered what is being constructed under the scaffolding and canopies? Well, it's Kai Tahi!

Join us to hear the story of this very special development at the heart of Porirua and adjacent to Pātaka – a space where people of all ages and cultures can come to meet, eat, share and play, and enjoy the foreshore, the arts and the city.

Friends' AGM 2024 is at 2pm, Monday 22 April in the Helen Smith Room at Pātaka, and will be followed by afternoon tea. We look forward to seeing you there.

FRIENDS' MEMBERSHIPS DUE

Annual Membership reminder invoices have been sent out for the year beginning 1 January 2024 – the cutoff date is 31 March 2024. You'll need a current membership to qualify for the Toi Store discount, free entry to concerts, invitations to member-only events, opportunity to vote at the AGM, etc.

▲ FRIENDS CO-PRESIDENT SUE MORTLOCK WITH PAUL SCHOFIELD, 2023 'SHOW US YOUR HARBOUR PHOTO COMPETITION' BEST ARTISTIC AWARD WINNER AND HIS ENTRY 'WAVES'. THIS WORK CAN BE SEEN UNTIL 31 MARCH AT THE EXHIBITION 'TE AWARUA O PORIRUA – OUR HARBOUR' AT BOTTLE CREEK GALLERY, PĀTAKA.

It's a great way to show your support for Pātaka Gallery+Museum. Your personalised 2024 membership card is available at Pātaka front desk – pick it up or leave it there for when you visit.

FRIENDS' VISIT TO THE KILNS AT TE HORO

17 March 2024



IMAGE COURTESY THE MIREK SMÍŠEK ARTS TRUST

An email invitation has been sent to Friends inviting them to a members-only visit to the Mirek Smišek brick beehive kilns in Te Horo, led by renowned Kapiti Coast potter Jenny Shearer. Entry is by donation of \$5 per person.

Created by internationally acclaimed Czech studio potter, the kilns were a hub for ceramic art for more than 40 years until 1997. When work began on the

Ōtaki-Peka Peka section of the expressway, a group of local residents saw the opportunity to honour Mirek's life and art by creating a multi-cultural arts centre on the site. This is now open for visitors and Mirek's inspiration continues with residencies for potters.

See: thekilnsattehoro.co.nz

HISTORY TALKS

From April to June, we're coordinating with Pātaka a series of lunchtime history talks for members to coincide with key dates or upcoming exhibitions.

Porirua War Stories

Friday 19 April (Poppy Day), 12 noon, Hāpori Room

In our first talk, local historian Allan Dodson, presents carefully researched stories of servicemen and women from the Porirua area who served in the Boer War, WW1 and WW2. Allan created the website [Porirua War Stories](#) and collaborated with Porirua City Council on a [digital walk at Porirua Cemetery of the graves of service people](#) he has researched there.

Bring your lunch and join us for an interesting hour.

FRIENDS ART AWARDS 2024

We have begun organising our fabulous biennial art awards, in which we invite artists living, working or studying in the Porirua region to submit any original work in any medium completed in the previous 24 months, one artwork per artist. In April, information and online registration forms will be on our website, with a closing date of 12 July. So, start selecting or working on your entry!!

PORIRUA ARTS TRAIL

Porirua Arts Trail Committee has just announced that their second arts trail will be held in 2025 on the weekend of 8-9 March, supported again by Porirua Community Arts.

Following three previous arts trails coordinated by Friends of Pātaka the first community-coordinated Porirua Arts Trail in 2022 was a huge success for both exhibitors and visitors.

The Committee encourages people to get involved – there will be lots of opportunities over the coming year. Email artstrail@poriruacommunityarts.org.nz for more details and to join the mailing list.

We are delighted to see this initiative continue to promote Porirua artists and makers. Please share this news with anyone who might be interested.

Follow progress during the year at:

poriuaartstrail.org.nz,

facebook.com/poriuaartstrail and

instagram.com/poriuaartstrail.

CURRENT PĀTAKA EXHIBITIONS

'Te Awarua o Porirua – Our Harbour'

Bottle Creek Gallery until 31 March.

This stunning photography exhibition celebrates Te Awarua-o-Porirua, Porirua's harbour. Its photographs represent the best works selected from the 2023 Show us your Harbour photo competition, organised by a committee drawn from Guardians of Pauatahanui Inlet, Porirua Harbour and Catchments Community Trust, Mountains to the Sea Wellington and the Porirua Camera Club. Renowned photographer Simon Woolf spoke at the opening about the power of photography to celebrate beauty, reveal challenges and inspire community activism, to achieve a healthy harbour, habitats and recreation spaces.

'Paraikete Threads' – Jeanine Clarkin, Noa

Blanket Co and the Mataaho Collective

2 March to 2 June 2024, West Gallery

Paraikete Threads looks at how contemporary Māori artists are working with the stories, histories and knowledge systems embedded in the blanket. From sustainable and upcycled fashion designs, luxury blankets and repurposing mink blankets as space for wānanga, this exhibition considers how artists respond to the many threads of blanket history in te ao Māori and the new meanings produced through contemporary practice.

'Maioha Kara: In Good Relation'

2 March to 2 June 2024

Te Whanganui-a-Tara artist Maioha Kara creates timber sculptures, excavated with patterns and filled with glitter. In Good Relation is her first solo exhibition in a public gallery.

Ahilapalapa Rands: Across the Sea

2 March to 2 June 2024

Hawaiian artist Ahilapalapa Rands draws on her Kānaka Maoli (Hawaiian) whakapapa to explore the connections with Hawai'i across the expanse of the ocean. Her two installations – textile banners created for this show and an animation – draw on her Kānaka Maoli whakapapa, migration and experiences of diaspora Kānaka Maoli.

Find out more at: pataka.org.nz/whats

'PAUL DIBBLE: CONTINUUM'

Te Manawa, Palmerston North
Closes 10 March.

There is just time to make the trip to Palmerston North see this extraordinary exhibition if you haven't been yet. After a 50-year career in bronze sculpture, with foundry and sculpture studio based in Manawatu, this show was organised to commemorate Paul Dibble's 80th birthday; following his passing on 5 Dec 2023, it also serves as a memorial tribute to a well-loved Palmerston North artist.

temanawa.co.nz/event/paul-dibble-continuum

RECENT BOOKS CELEBRATING WRITERS

Patricia Grace: *Bird Child and Other Stories*

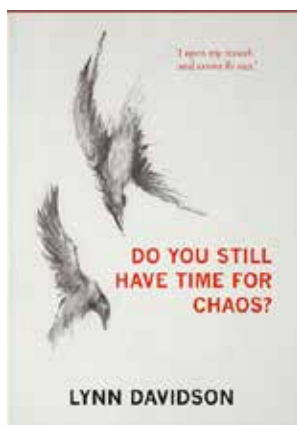


Patricia Grace, (Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Ngāti Raukawa, Te Ātiawa) one of Aotearoa's most celebrated Māori fiction authors, has released a powerful new collection of short stories, *Bird Child and Other Stories* (Penguin 2024), which blends mythology and contemporary Māori life

and reimagines ancient tales.

Listen to her [RNZ interview](#), 3 February 2024.

Lynn Davidson: *Do You Still Have Time for Chaos?*



Poet and creative writing teacher Lynn Davidson's memoir '*Do You Still Have Time for Chaos?*' (Te Herenga Waka Press 2024) is described by publisher as "a love letter to the literature of Scotland and Aotearoa New Zealand. It has an ear to the land and its stories. It is a celebration of choice.

It is an act of resistance to the persistent idea that women are safer to stay at home."

TOI STORE PROFILE



The Hohepa Candle Workshop

Founded in the early 1980s, the Hohepa Candle Workshop provides meaningful work for people with intellectual disability at Hohepa Hawkes Bay. It is based on Rudolf Steiner's holistic view of the human being – work should be natural and meaningful.

The dedicated team annually turns 1,000kg of beeswax into hand-crafted high-quality candles with love, care, and expertise. Some team members have been candle-making for 30 years, others have just started.

Lynn judged Pātaka's haiku competition last year, and completed this work during her Randell Cottage writers' residency.

Listen to her [RNZ interview](#), 21 January 2024.

ANIVA ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Pātaka and Creative New Zealand Toi Aotearoa are now accepting applications for the 2024 Aniva Artist in Residency Programme. Open to an Aotearoa-based Pacific artist or practitioner who identifies as LGBTQIA+/MVPFAFF, this year priority is being given to performing artists.

See Pātaka's [facebook page](#) for more details.