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**Whāia tō mātou haerenga**  
Follow our journey of change

**Whale bones, bug hunts and your last chance to see *Wharenui Harikoa* in this school holiday special.**

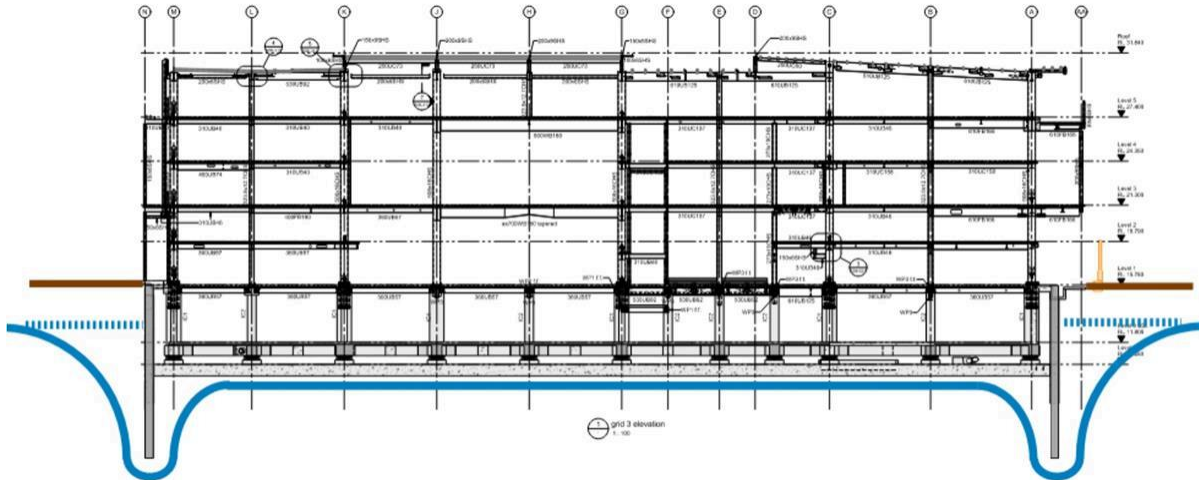


**From the Director | Tumuaki**

Tēnā koe

We are making great progress on the Canterbury Museum redevelopment site.

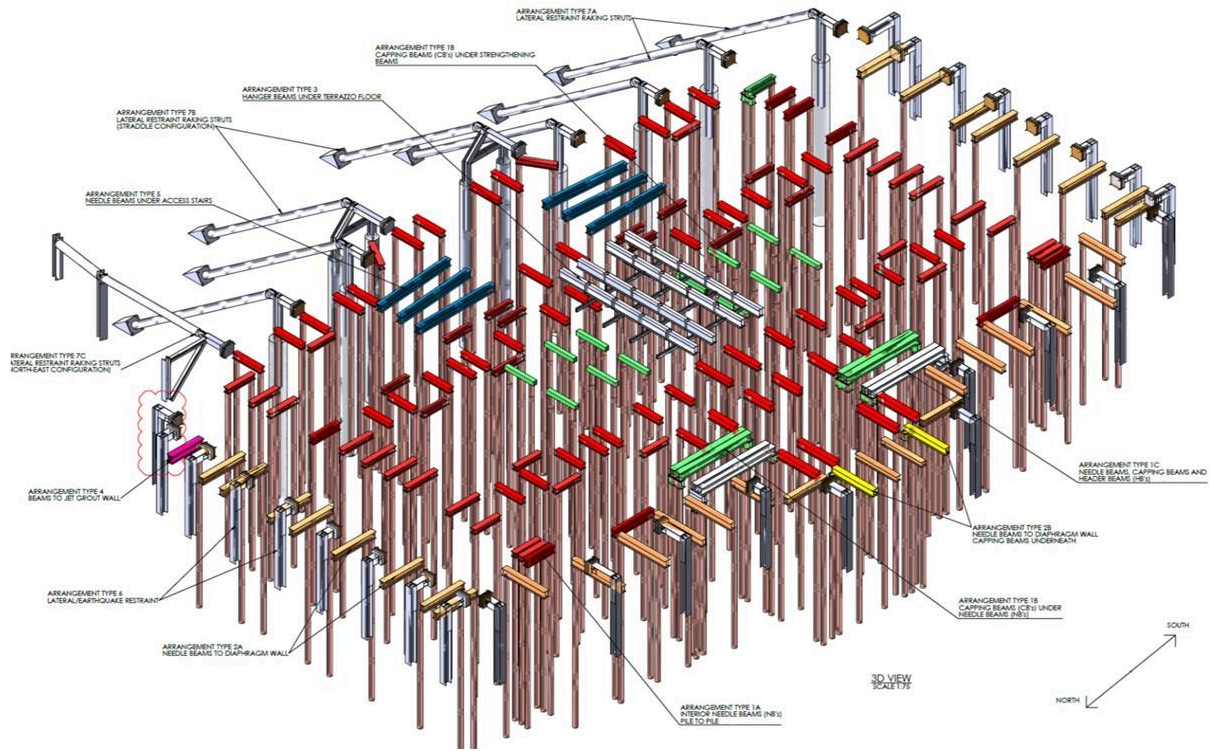
The site is now a real hive of activity. The D-Wall – a 12 metre-deep reinforced concrete “reverse swimming pool” which will keep ground water out of the new base-isolated storage basement is 100% complete.



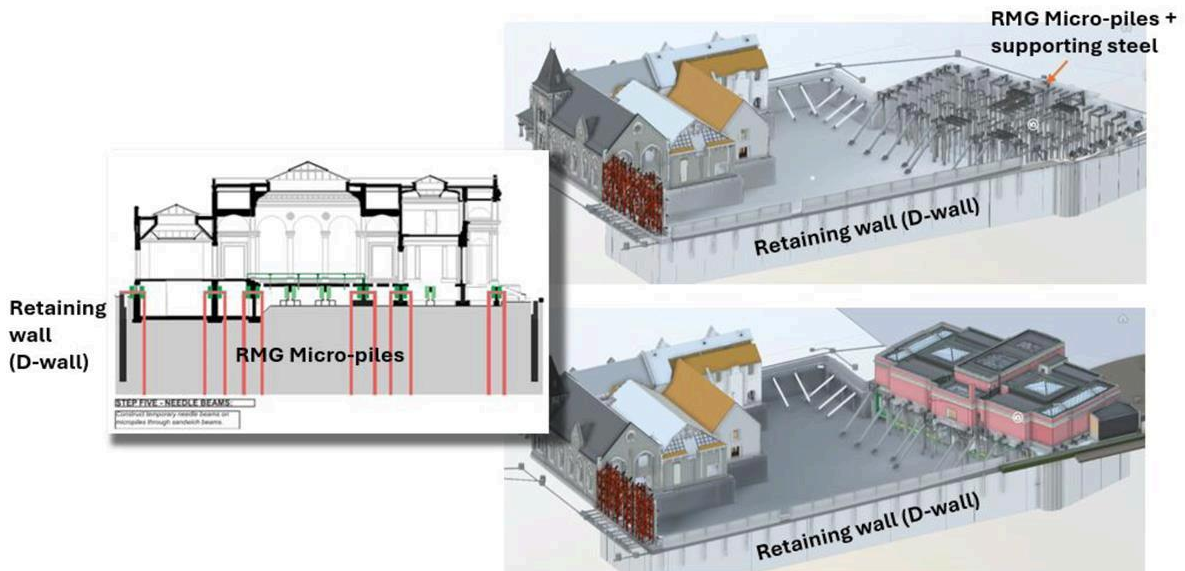
*The D-wall and the floor that joins them together is one of two waterproof layers that protect the basement from the water table (shown in blue). The base-isolated, double waterproof five level building will be built within this "reverse swimming pool".*

Underneath the Robert McDougall Gallery an internationally important piece of engineering excellence is unfolding. A “forest” of micropiles, each 15 metres deep, is being drilled into the ground to temporarily support the Gallery building while a new basement is dug out and earthquake-proof permanent foundations are laid.

The micropiles are now 85% in place with this work slated to be fully completed in May.



A "forest" of temporary micropiles will support the Robert McDougall Gallery until the new foundation and basement are completed.



The D-wall runs around the perimeter of the new buildings and the Robert McDougall Gallery.

Meanwhile the "scrape" of the top 2 metres of soil between the Mountfort heritage buildings on Rolleston Avenue and the Gallery has started. This layer has to be removed carefully to allow checks for ground contamination and archaeological assessment. So far, little contamination has been uncovered and only one, already known, former Museum rubbish pit found.

Once the "scrape" is complete and the Gallery building fully supported, the bulk excavation, to a depth of 6 metres, can commence.



*The redevelopment site looking east to the back of the Rolleston Avenue facade, showing the start of the "scrape". Note on the right, the north ends of the 1877 and 1882 wings, which are seeing the light of day for the first time since the late 1950s.*

Meanwhile, staff at our temporary collections store and offices in Hornby are hard at work designing the first 30 or so exhibitions for the new Museum. These vary from the stories of Kate Sheppard and Henry Nicholas VC, the original Hamilton jet boat and the early Avon River punt *Elizabeth*, through to a forest of giant moa and the return of old favourites like *The Christchurch Street* (with even more collection items in the shops) and *Fred & Myrtle's Paua Shell House*.



*Kate Sheppard's dress, worn in her \$10 note portrait, will be in the new Museum.*

Finally, don't miss the last days of Wharenui Harikoa, which closes at the Canterbury Museum Pop-Up soon before heading overseas on tour. See the next story.

Ngā mihi nui

Anthony Wright, Tumuaki | Director



Time to say goodbye

# A big farewell for Wharenui Harikoa

It's your last chance to see the bright and beautiful *Wharenui Harikoa* before it leaves New Zealand on a world tour.

The full size wharenui (Māori meeting house) is made from 5,000 balls of brightly-coloured yarn and crocheted by hand. Created by artists Lissy and Rudi Cole-Robinson, the wharenui has captured hearts and broken visitor records since it opened in Christchurch in December.

See the free exhibition at the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up*, 66 Gloucester Street before it closes on 27 April. Don't miss out!

[Read more →](#)

## Nocturnal creepy crawlies

### The holiday bug hunt

Hunt bugs by night and meet live stick insects with Canterbury Museum over the school holidays.

Science Communicator Dr Morgane Merien will host free sessions across Christchurch from 14 to 24 April showing how to join a global search for creatures of all kinds. Then join Morgane for a twilight bug hunt in a *Bioblitz Bonanza Evening* on 25 April.

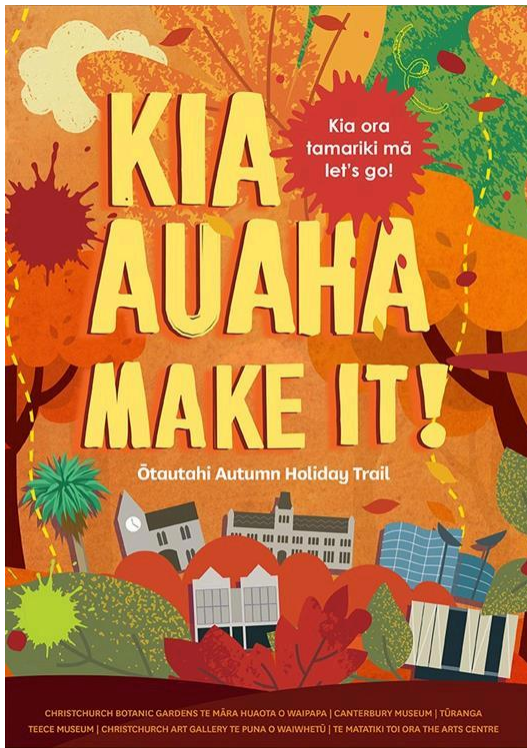
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## Make It!

### Ōtautahi Autumn Trail

Make leaf boats, theatre masks and mosaics on a free discovery trail through the city centre this school holidays.



Canterbury Museum is one of six Christchurch attractions on the trail, which offers kids many ways to make and create.

Grab a free booklet at the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up* at 66 Gloucester Street and get making! The trail runs from 12 to 27 April.

[Read more →](#)



### Extreme birdwatching

## Counting birds on a rock in the ocean

How do you count albatross on a remote rock in the middle of the Pacific Ocean?

For Mark Fraser of Canterbury Museum, it involved free climbing up 30-metre cliff faces, camping on an exposed rock stack off Rēkohu/Chatham Islands and using

ropes to haul science equipment onto the rock.

Mark, a seabird ornithologist and Collections Technician Natural History at Canterbury Museum, will share his adventures counting rare seabirds in a free talk presented by the Friends of Canterbury Museum on Tuesday, 15 April at 10.15 am.

Mark has counted albatross populations on two rocks near the Chatham Islands about 800 km east of New Zealand. Come along to learn about monitoring wildlife in extreme environments.

**A Friends of the Canterbury Museum talk.**

[Book your place →](#)



**Kiwi ingenuity**

## **Silver flutes with a number 8 twist**

Christchurch silversmith and talented musician Trevor Hutton used his Kiwi ingenuity to make a set of four beautiful flutes.

Number 8 wire is a well-used phrase to describe the ingenuity that the residents of far-flung Aotearoa New Zealand have sometimes needed when faced with limited resources. Trevor put this mindset to good use when he made a series of complex



modern flutes from scratch. He reclaimed silver from old photographic film and even sourced local animal intestines for a small but important part of the flute.

A custom-made case containing a set of four different sized flutes – a piccolo, a concert flute, an alto flute and a bass flute – made by Trevor have been donated to the Canterbury Museum collection by his family. These flutes are special because Trevor made them using only materials that could be found locally.

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### Canterbury Museum Pop-Up

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