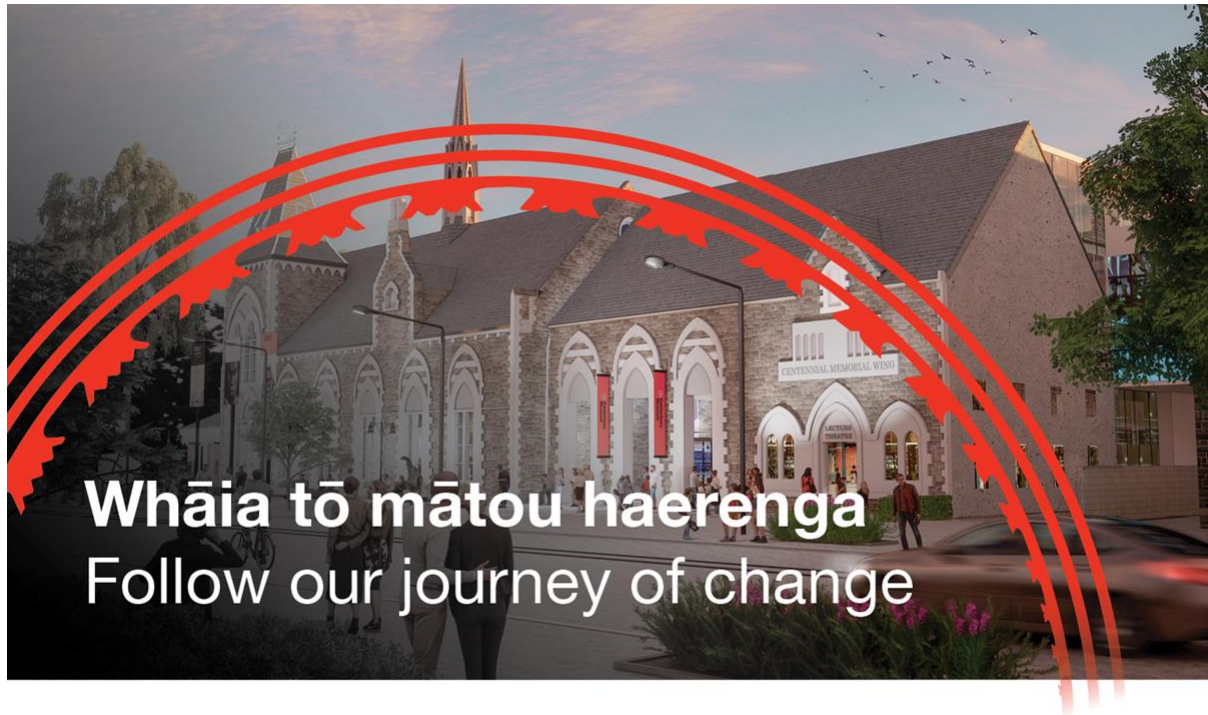


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Whāia tō mātou haerenga  
Follow our journey of change



Kia ora koutou

As we pass the shortest day of the year and head towards the promised light of spring, it is heartening to see incredible progress on the Museum redevelopment. Every time I visit the site, there is a visible progress to celebrate.

The outer basement floor for the new building is largely complete. About 2,100 cubic metres of concrete have been poured for the floor and reinforced with 347 tonnes of steel. Work on the base-isolated inner basement, which will house the Museum collection store, is also well advanced. If you're passing the site, you can see the basement floor taking shape through the fence on Rolleston Avenue or from the Botanic Gardens.



*The floor of the new base-isolated basement is taking shape.*

Contractors are also making good progress on excavating the basement under the Robert McDougall Gallery. The heritage building is now supported by steel beams sitting atop over 300 steel micropiles. Workers are now excavating between the micropiles using diggers to create space for the new base-isolated basement under the gallery.

**You can watch a video and read more about this engineering feat [here](#).** The outer basement floor under the Gallery is scheduled to be completed towards the end of this year. **You can also watch all this progress on our live webcam [here](#).**



*The Robert McDougall Gallery now stands on a series of steel beams sitting atop more than 300 micropiles.*



*A worker excavates soil from beneath the Robert McDougall Gallery.*

As well as construction progress on the new Museum, we are pleased to open a new exhibition at the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up* this week. *Tails from the Coasts* offers a fascinating view of Singapore's wildlife through a series of whimsical watercolours, on loan from the National Museum of Singapore. You can read more about this below.

Ngā mihi nui  
Anthony Wright  
Tumuaki Matua | Director



**Animal magic**

## ***Tails from the Coasts* now open**

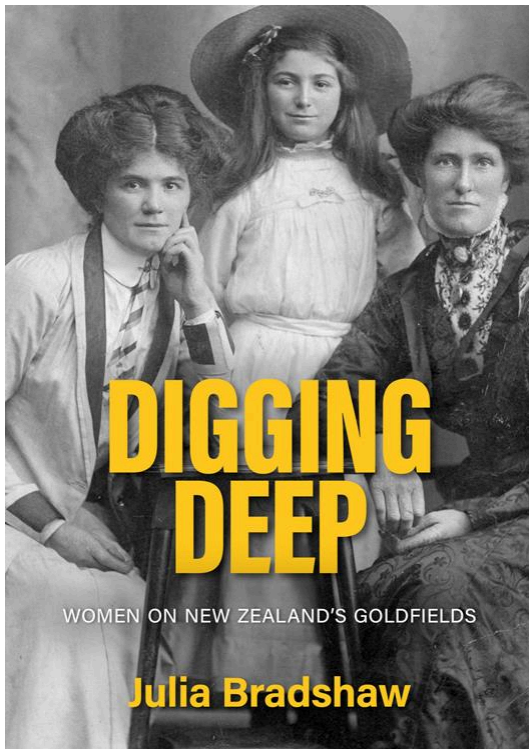
Enter a fascinating world of flying squirrels, bearcats that smell of popcorn, fish that can climb trees and the world's only venomous primate.

*Tails From The Coasts: Nature Stories of Singapore*, a new exhibition at the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up*, offers an insight into Singapore's diverse and intriguing wildlife through a priceless collection of historic watercolours.

The 200-year-old artworks, on loan from the National Museum of Singapore, are also brought to life through animation in a special immersive digital experience called *Voyage – Experience the William Farquhar Collection of Natural History Drawings of Southeast Asia*.

[Read more →](#)

**Finding gold**



## Digging Deep

Senior Curator Human History Julia Bradshaw has spent 30 years unearthing fantastic stories about women on the New Zealand goldfields.

Her latest book, *Digging Deep: Women on New Zealand's Goldfields*, tells the stories of remarkable women who played a vital part in the country's gold rush era, but were often overlooked by historians. You can read more about the book and how to buy a copy here.

We are giving away a copy of *Digging Deep* to one lucky reader. Click below to enter the draw.

[Feeling lucky? →](#)



**Dino discoveries**

## Squawkzilla and his ancient friends

Discover how a fossil site in Otago has transformed our understanding of ancient New Zealand.

In the last 20 years, a revolution in our understanding of New Zealand's ancient past has unfolded thanks to fossils discovered at sites in St Bathans, Otago.

Senior Curator Natural History, Paul Scofield, takes you through some of the major fossil discoveries and the surprising picture they reveal of Aotearoa/New Zealand 16 million years ago.

A Friends of the Canterbury Museum talk.

[Watch video →](#)



**Bugs and stars**

## School holiday fun

Our educators are taking to the road over the school holidays with drop-in events across Canterbury.

Bring the kids to Hanmer Springs Library on Wednesday 8 July to meet live stick insects with Canterbury Museum bug expert Morgane Merien or visit Amberley Library at 10.30 am on Thursday 9 July for a Matariki event.

Free drop-in events. Suitable for all ages.

[Read more →](#)



 Canterbury Museum

Death from below

## Stories of adventure and discovery

Hear tales of old shipwrecks, abundant birdlife and orcas devouring penguins in the Subantarctic Islands.

Canterbury Museum Collections Inventory Project Lead Technician Ashley Boot travelled to the islands as a recipient of the Heritage Expeditions Young Explorers Scholarship.

She shares stories of adventure and discovery from her trip to the remote and unique islands in the Southern Ocean.

A Friends of the Canterbury Museum talk.

[Watch video →](#)

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 **Canterbury  
Museum**



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