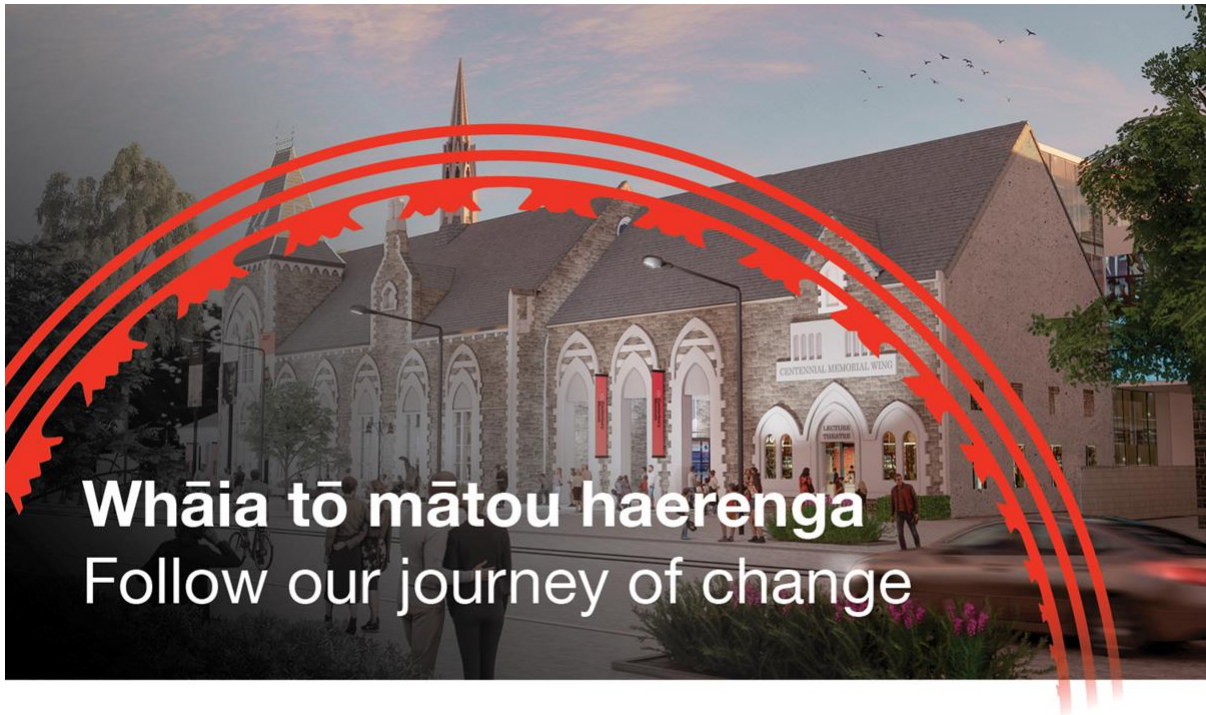
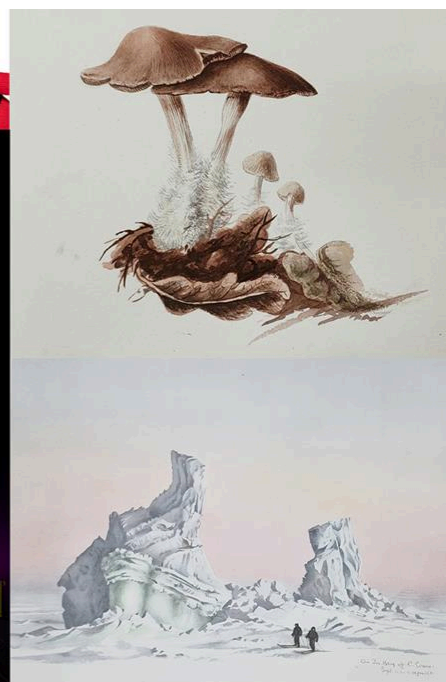


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**Whāia tō mātou haerenga**  
Follow our journey of change



## **A Very Merry Christmas**

A full size whareniui made entirely of brightly-coloured wool, yarn bombing in the city centre, a Polar hero, a mysterious artist and the return of Santa. All this and more in this month's Canterbury Museum newsletter.



## From the Director | Tumuaki

Tēnā koe

It's our pleasure this summer to bring an extraordinary work to Ōtautahi Christchurch, *Whareniui Harikoa* by artists Lissy and Rudi Robinson-Cole. We're very proud that the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up* is the first place it has been exhibited in Te Wai Pounamu/South Island.

One of the maxims for the work is: "All you need is love and wool".

Let's start with the wool. The whareniui is made from 5,000 balls of neon wool, skilfully crocheted into forms inspired by traditional Māori whakairo (carving).

It is a beautiful, bright and uplifting work that creates a sense of excitement wherever it goes – a real summer treat for Cantabrians of all ages.

Which brings us to the love. This whareniui is much more than just an eye-catching spectacle. For Lissy and Rudi, this work is a real statement of love. The wool evokes memories of softness and love, of family members or loved ones who crocheted or knitted you a token of affection. A scarf in winter or booties for a new baby.

It's a timely artwork. When you read a paper or watch the news, it can sometimes feel like love is in short supply.

Yet here stands *Whareniui Harikoa*, a big house of joy and love, and an exploration of matauranga Māori and whakapapa expressed with these marvellous crocheted

panels and forms.

We've really enjoyed welcoming people into this special space and bringing a bit of wool and love to Ōtautahi's summer!

Meri Kirihimete from all the team at Canterbury Museum.

Ngā mihi nui

Anthony Wright, Tumuaki | Director



**A house of joy**

## Love and wool in Wharenui Harikoa

Artists Lissy and Rudi Robinson-Cole spent 3 years making *Wharenui Harikoa*, which translates to House of Joy. The monumental task of creating this neon-coloured wharenui began with a simple crochet hook and a clutch of eye-catching yarn.

[Read more →](#)

**Yarn bombing**

## Wool in the City

To celebrate *Wharenui Harikoa* coming to Ōtautahi Christchurch, Canterbury



Museum has partnered with Gap Filler to yarn bomb the neighbourhood.

Christchurch's avid crafters have created a giant woollen salamander and colourful wraps to enliven the lamp-posts and trees around the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up* at 66 Gloucester Street.

Visit the *Museum Pop-Up* to experience the astonishing *Wharenui Harikoa* and take in a special woolly streetscape.

[Read more →](#)



**Norway to the South Pole**

## Edward Wilson's art and life

Edward Wilson died in the Antarctic with Captain Robert Falcon Scott. But his art lives on.

Dr Edward Adrian Wilson was a physician, naturalist and artist with Scott's *Discovery* and *Terra Nova* expeditions. He died with Scott on the return journey from the South Pole in 1912.

Canterbury Museum Curator Human History Adele Jackson charts Wilson's life through his drawings and paintings held in the collection.

A Friends of the Canterbury Museum talk.

[Watch video →](#)



**Guess who's back?**

## The Great Museum Santa Search returns

The much-loved *Great Museum Santa Search* is back for some festive family fun. Can you find all the Santas hiding in the pop-up Museum?

Discover all the Santas and you could win a fantastic prize. It's not Christmas until *The Great Museum Santa Search* is underway and children of all ages are hunting for their bearded bringer of yuletide cheer. The hunt begins 14 December at the pop-up Museum, 66 Gloucester Street.

[Read more →](#)



**A surprise discovery**

## Watercolour mysteries and copycats

A mysterious album has led to a world of Victorian copycats and beautiful watercolours.

The album was recently uncovered during the inventory of the Canterbury Museum collection, but its origins are a mystery.

It has no identifying numbers that would record who the donor was, or when the album came into the Museum. The only clues are an inscription of the maker, Emily Stevens, and the date 1 February 1856 handwritten inside the front cover.

The album contains carefully outlined and painted illustrations of British fungi and mushrooms, each identified by a handwritten species name at the bottom of the page.

But who was the artist?

[Read more →](#)

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 **Canterbury  
Museum**



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