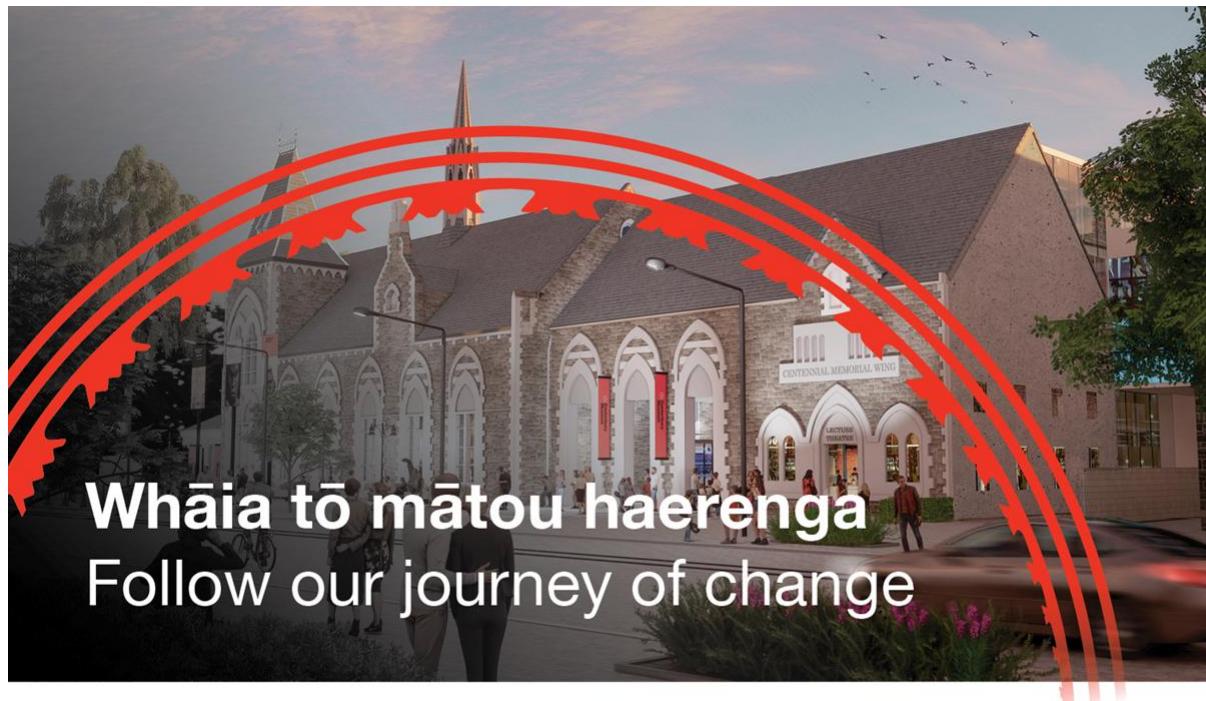


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## Summer Holidays with the Museum

Kia ora koutou

We've made a Museum book stack for you to enjoy over the festive season.

Visit the new section of the Canterbury Museum website to discover inspiring stories behind the collection, follow rebuild progress and read about Antarctic explorers, frontline medics, pioneering novelists and more.



*A taster of stories you can enjoy on the new section of our website.*

This bonanza of summer stories is an invitation to join the Museum on an epic journey of change as we reimagine and redevelop not just the buildings, but the institution itself.

Join us on this voyage as the redevelopment forges ahead, we draw inspiration from the collection and tell stories of amazing people and amazing journeys. New stories will be added as our journey to the new Museum progresses. Enjoy some summer reading on us.

Happy browsing and Meri Kirihimete from Canterbury Museum.



Coming attractions

## Dinosaurs: Surviving Extinction

Did you know birds are direct descendants of dinosaurs?

Come along to the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up* for a unique journey through time to discover how the legacy of dinosaurs lives on in the birds around us.

Explore life-sized fossil displays to discover how dinosaurs shared many traits with birds, from feathers to eggs and lightweight bones. This exhibition brings these revelations to life, offering a unique glimpse into the evolutionary journey from dinosaurs to modern birds.

*Dinosaurs: Surviving Extinction* runs at the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up* from 13 February to 14 June 2026.

[Read more →](#)

Guess who's back?

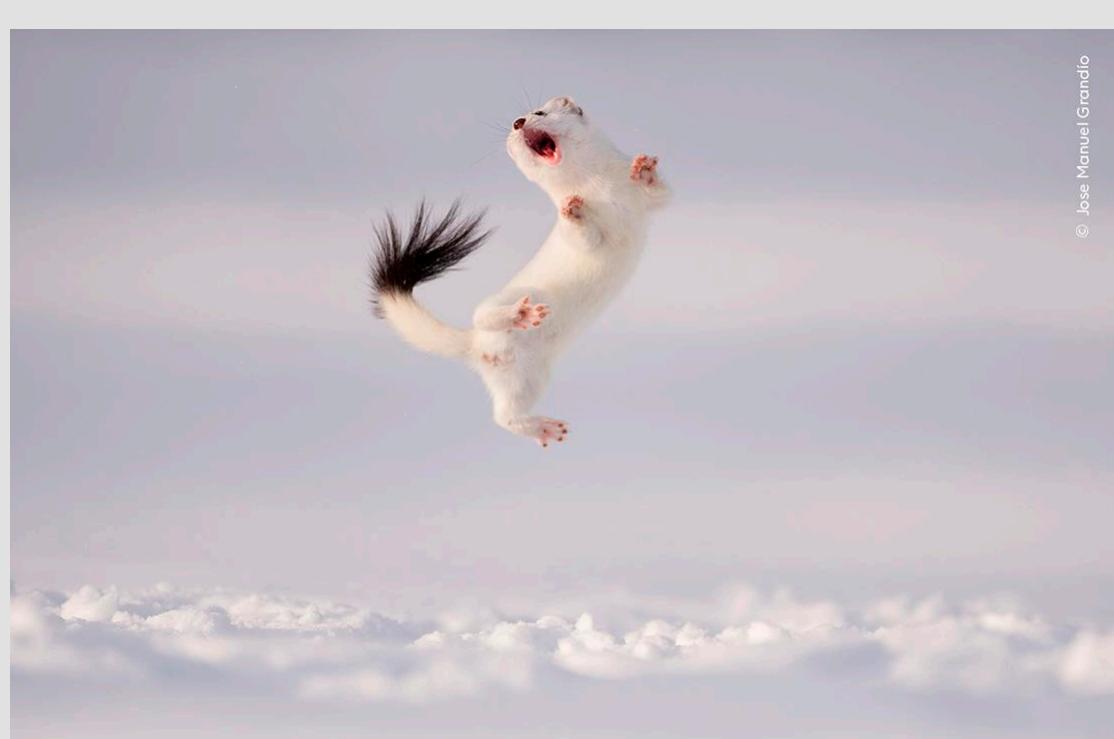
## Santa Search



It's that time of year again - the *Great Museum Santa Search* is back at the Museum pop-up.

Can you find all the Santas hiding in the Museum? Discover them all and you could win a prize.

[Read more →](#)



© Jose Manuel Grandio

**Stoked stoat**

## A snowy stoat leaping for joy at Xmas

Photographer Jose Manuel Grandío braved sub-zero temperatures in the French Alps to capture this image of a stoat leaping into the air.

See this incredible image, along with a fresh batch of 100 spectacular animal photos, in *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* at the pop-up Museum.

It is unclear why stoats leap into the air with such exuberance. Some think it is a ploy to confuse prey while others think it is related to a parasitic infection.

The exhibition, on loan from the Natural History Museum in London, gives visitors the chance to see a hawk hunting a butterfly, the nocturnal glow of a Chilean volcano and the intimate world of tiny insects.

*Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2024* is on at the *Canterbury Museum Pop-up* until 1 February.

Image: *Twist and Jump* by Jose Manuel Grandío. *Wildlife Photographer of the Year*. Natural History Museum, London

[See more →](#)



**Upcoming fun**

## Get Curious in January and February

Touch, explore and experience the weird and wonderful with *Get Curious!* at the *Canterbury Museum Pop-Up*.

Meet live insects, explore quirky taonga (treasures) and test your detective skills with our mysterious object challenge! This programme runs from Friday 23 January to Wednesday 4 February 2026. Drop-in between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm daily. Free entry. Fun for all ages.

*Canterbury Museum Pop-Up*, 66 Gloucester Street.

[Read more →](#)

[Subscribe to our stories](#)

## Be the first ....

... to read about our redevelopment journey and treasures from the collection by signing up for Museum Stories delivered straight to your inbox.

[Sign up here →](#)



Top image: Father Christmas on a Skidoo at Scott Base in 1992. Photo by Kevin Randles ©Antarctica New Zealand Pictorial Collection ANZSC0201.11 CC BY 3.0 NZ



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