



HASTINGS LANDMARKS TRUST

PEOPLE + PARTICIPATION = PRIDE

OUR MISSION: TO PROMOTE EXCELLENCE IN HISTORY, LANDSCAPE, ARCHITECTURE AND PUBLIC ART | AUGUST 2021

Hello, Kia ora, Ni Hao, Konnichiwa, Bonjour, Guten Tag, Hallo,
Solofa, Namaste, Hola, Buongiorno, Salute, Yassas, Ola

Winter 2021 in Hastings

In view of the frequent global warming news reaching us via the media it was unsurprising to hear that New Zealand's temperature data had, during the months prior to the winter solstice (21st June), been the warmest ever recorded.

As a consequence, during this period, residents and visitors continued to enjoy all that is special, valued and new in Hastings and the surrounding area of Hawke's Bay. Small details like the corten steel tree guards, with cut-out rata flower motif, that protect the rata trees on Karamu Road.

Elsewhere, tree guards with designs inspired by the local wetlands, coastal area and koru patterns add to the broad and varied array of thoughtful city enhancement. Even the skilful and considered design and laying of symbolic footpaths bear witness to the attention to detail relating to Hawkes Bay's local heritage.

Landmarks Trust members enthusiastically viewed the recent 113 Queen St East mural on that visually enlivens the gateway to Hastings Queens St East adding to the tastefully selected facade colours that enhance the art deco era buildings to their best advantage.

The number of interesting locations to visit in Hastings increases on a regular basis. Only a short distance from ToiToi one can find a recently installed information board detailing the history of Hastings' former power station.

It is doubtful that when John Chambers built this hydro-electric power house, in 1892, to supply



electricity for his own home, his woolshed and his water pump that he envisioned it becoming the much enjoyed and frequented hospitality outlet that it is today, and that it would also become lauded as a heritage building.

Further afield the reopening of the Tuki Tuki Loop section of the Landscapes Ride (on the Waimarama Road), and the new safety precautions put in place by the collaboration of Hastings City Council and the Regional Council have encouraged hundreds of cyclists and walkers to take the opportunity to view anew the lovely vistas since June.

Discover the first of our items relating to Hawkes Bay 'Hidden Gems', their history, surroundings and other details relevant to them.

And remember to note in your diaries the upcoming AGM and awards night. Please note the earlier time of 4.30. This is because it is on the same night as the Hastings City Celebration Awards, so please join us in your finery if you are heading there later.



AGM & AWARDS 2021

WHEN: 4.30 pm , Thursday , 26 August 2021

WHERE: Havelock North Function Centre

GUEST SPEAKER: Josh Lynch



Landscape

The Jeremy Dwyer Award winner in the Landmarks Trust Awards 2019 was the Maraetotara Tree Trust.

They were recognised for their excellent work creating a corridor of native planting along 43 kilometres of the Maraetotara River.

The sustained and ongoing commitment from their major sponsors Unison, David Trubridge and Clearview Winery, along with many other supporting

sponsors, resulted in the planting of 7,700 trees and flax along the river in 2019, 10,000 plants in 2020, and the 2021 planting season is underway. Most planting has been completed by Habitat Diversity and Pest Management limited. Some planting has been done by the trustees assisted by staff of the Trust's commercial sponsors, and pupils and parents from Taikura Rudolf Steiner School. Josh Lynch, General Manager, is the guest speaker.

History

THE HASTINGS WAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND MURAL

After the total collapse of the public library in the earthquake of 1931, the Carnegie Foundation, that had funded the building, declined to replace it as the council had not maintained it as a free library as agreed. Hastings remained without a purpose built library for over 28 years. Its temporary home was in the Municipal Buildings, Heretaunga Street.

After much debate about a location, the foundation stone for a War Memorial Public Library, designed by H.E. Phillips, was laid in 1956 and opened in 1959 by the Dominion president of the RSA.

The focal point of the building is the Hall of Memories, through which until a few years ago, was the main entrance. The whole of the upper half of the wall facing west is enhanced by a remarkable mural by New Zealand's war artist, Peter McIntyre. This depicts the three services in action in a landing on a beach and emphasises the war memorial aspect of the building. This was restored in 1994 and has an ongoing restoration programme.

Italian Verde marble is used as a background to the bronze name tablets which contain the names of all those of the district who gave their lives in the two world wars. The words on the marble stone opposite are, "Our freedom is bought with a price that others paid. As you pass through here, remember." Peter McIntyre also designed the etched glass panels in the large central window of the

Hall of Memories and the two bass-reliefs on the exterior of the building. The modernist well balanced design of the building is given warmth by the small 'Glenburn' bricks up to the window sills.

Since 1962 membership of the library has been free.



HISTORY TALKS

Our Talks continue through until November, where we hear local identities recall their early upbringing, family and working lives.

LANDMARKS HISTORY TALK FOR AUGUST 2021:

Speaker: Linda Bainbridge Manager of the Hawke's Bay Knowledge Bank

Topic: The Digital Bank at Stoneycroft : its 10th Anniversary coming up this summer.

Linda has overseen an immense trove of local stories over that time. All contributions are from families, businesses and individuals and they keep coming in. Come and hear some of the best of them and how the Bank envisages its future.

DATE: Tuesday 10th August 2021

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

VENUE: Hastings War Memorial Library
Civic Square

ENTRY: Open to all. Gold coin donation

Public Art

Hastings Landmarks Trust would like to share with our readers a number of 'Hidden Gems' that exist in and around Hastings and Hawkes Bay.

We aim to include information relating to these highly regarded historical features in future news letters to increase local community awareness and for these Gems to continue to be appreciated and cherished as part of the historical fabric and story of Hastings and Hawkes Bay for future generations.



HIDDEN GEM - PETER MCINTYRE MURAL-HASTINGS LIBRARY

Hastings and District War Memorial Library commemorates those who served in World War II. The expansive mural in the Hall of Memories, the window, and the bas-relief on the exterior of the building were painted and designed by Peter McIntyre.

Peter McIntyre was born in Dunedin on the 4 July 1910. He attended Otago Boys High School and received additional art education from Dunedin artist Alfred O'Keeffe and in 1930 attended Otago University to complete a BA and become a journalist.

He abandoned his degree and from 1931-1934 studied for a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the Slade School of Fine Art, London graduating with prizes in composition and figure drawing. From then on he worked as a freelance commercial artist until 1939. During this period he exhibited contemporary work, he influenced English avant-garde and French cubism placing him alongside expatriate New Zealanders Francis Hodgkin's and Len Lye.

In 1939 McIntyre enlisted in the 34th Anti-tank Battery, a New Zealand unit formed in London and was sent as a gunner to Egypt. During the war he discovered his painting did not lie with the avant-garde but with romantic realism. In 1941 McIntyre was appointed New Zealand's official war artist recording the activities of the 2NZEF in Crete and North Africa, and Casino in Italy. His work was exhibited in Europe and New Zealand, and reproduced in magazines in the New Zealand Listener which made him a household name. By the early 1960s modern NZ art had been

more confidently established and McIntyre's work was enormously popular with the New Zealand public.

The mural in the Hall of Memories was completed in 1956. The classical triangular composition, the scale and use of foreshortening is reminiscent of classical artists, Ingre and Raphael (models for the classical draughtsmanship taught at the Slade). This romantic illustrative approach, cohesively worked with the use of only two primary colours, represents and commemorates the activity of the three armed forces in an unidentified North African location. A major work in Hawke's Bay, the mural has had ongoing archival maintenance befitting its significance.

As a foot note, both McIntyre's son Simon and granddaughter Emma are recognised artists within current NZ contemporary art practice.

Acknowledgment. Warren Feeney. 'McIntyre, Peter', *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, first published in 2000, updated August, 2020. Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/5m15/mcintyre-peter> (accessed 19 July 2021)

ART SCULPTURE WALKS

To be led by staff from Hastings city art gallery.

DATES: 4th September, 20th November.

Toitoti and Heretaunga Street East are continuing to attract the community for entertainment with pre and post theatre event refreshment available at nearby restaurants and cafes.

New Executive Members



NEW
MEMBERS

The Landmarks Trust Executive are seeking and welcome new talent, so do consider joining our team.

Together we can make Hastings the best it can be.

And/or make a donation to support the good work of Hastings Landmarks Trust.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP IS ONLY \$25

ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR PAYMENT: 03 0642 0864185 00 (your name as "Reference")

OR POST TO:

Barbara Brookfield, Treasurer

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HAVELOCK NORTH 4157

Email: Hastingslandmarks@gmail.com

Your Opinions Matter

We encourage everyone to forward opinions and suggestions to Landmarks aligning with the 4 tenets.

We would love to hear your views.

Contact us

Email: Hastingslandmarks@gmail.com

Landmarks - Promoting Excellence in History, Landscape, Architecture and Public Art since 2000

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