

# Appendix 1

## Hāpai | Attempts to share the Western Bay of Plenty Heritage

- 1873 First recorded museum collection on display at Mechanics Institute, Harington Street
- 1881 Disaster strikes - the Institute and collection are destroyed by fire
- 1882 Museum exhibition opens, including 100 taonga from Captain Gilbert Mair
- 1906 Mechanics Institute becomes a public library
- 1938 Partial collection goes on display in Town Hall, Willow Street
- 1941 Collection is hidden during WWII
- 1969 Tauranga Historical Society opens a small volunteer museum on the corner of Durham and Hamilton Streets.
- 1972 Control of the museum and collections place under control of a Museum Board.
- 1976-1988 Tauranga Historic Village takes over the Tauranga Historical Society's museum. Sadly, no protocols are in place, so many unsuitable items are collected and the collection deteriorates in sub-standard conditions.
- 1999-2000 Plans made to build a museum on land at Dive Crescent but shelved.
- 1999 Collection goes into sub-standard storage conditions
- 1998-2007 TCC initiative for a Museum on the Waterfront – abandoned after 2007 local body election
- 2004 Collection is moved to a newly built commercial warehouse with improved conditions but still vulnerable and not meeting contemporary standards for the care of museum collections - only six metres above sea level on a sand spit, vulnerable to earthquake, tsunami, flooding and salt spray.
- 2005 Plans to build a new museum on a pier over the water on the Strand waterfront. Opposed by some, abandoned by TCC.
- 2010 A private museum at Katikati becomes community-owned.
- 2010 TCC started the Tauranga Moana Museum Trust for the purpose of establishing a building in Tauranga. TCC voted 'No.'
- 2015 Community consultation finds 64% residents favour a museum.
- 2016 Katikati Museum [now Western Bay Museum] opens in the old Fire Station at Katikati operating as a registered Charitable Trust
- 2017 Research Report on a Museum (and Library) – nothing came of this
- 2021 Taonga Tū | Heritage Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust starts on a overarching Heritage Strategy for the Western Bay of Plenty
- 2022 Proposed Visitor Centre at The Elms Te Papa; proposed NZ Wars Cultural Centre at Pukehinahina; proposed Civic Centre Museum, Tauranga.

For more information read the extract: **Insights gained from a Review of past attempts to gain a museum for Tauranga by John Coster - [See full report](#)**