

Rifle Presented to Graham Perry GM, OBE

Recently, retired Deputy Assistant Commissioner Graham Perry GM, OBE visited the Museum enquiring about a rifle that was in the Museum's armoury. The rifle had been presented to him by the Whangarei Armed Offenders Section because of the assistance he and his squad gave during a shooting incident at Whangarei on 12 July 1969.

The Armed Offenders Squad (AOS) had been called to the domestic incident where an armed man was holding a baby hostage. The offender had a record of previous firearms offences and was known to be dangerous. He had refused to give himself up and had threatened to shoot the baby and then himself.

Perry entered the house and disarmed the offender by shooting the rifle from his hand. He was awarded the George Medal for his brave actions. This shot was the first fired in an operation by the AOS.

Museum staff were delighted to host Mr Perry when he visited to view the rifle along with his two sons Assistant Commissioner Nick Perry and Inspector Simon Perry, and his colleague Retired Superintendent Maurice Cummings. This was a great opportunity to recognise Mr Perry's bravery and a strong example of how capturing the layers of information about a museum object emphasises its significance and pertinence. In this case, the rifle is an exemplar of an individual, a family history of police service, and a significant moment in AOS history.

The Museum is planning an exhibition to mark the 50th anniversary of the formation of the AOS in 2014.



Graham Perry GM, OBE (Ret: Deputy AC) and Maurice Cummings (Ret: Supt.) beside the exhibit reflecting Graham's gallantry, resulting in the award of the George Medal.

Museum in Motion

Thanks to strategic advertising, new programming and positive word of mouth, school holidays are now our peak period for visitors. We wanted to capture the Museum during its busiest time so everyone could see it at its best – buzzing with happy families!

Time-lapse footage, courtesy of Gareth Davies, the Coordinator of National Forensic Training at The Royal New Zealand Police College, was taken on what has become a typical school holiday day with hundreds of visitors including three groups. The footage has been featured on the homepage of the Police website and on the Museum's own website.



News in Brief

Establishing a Charitable Trust

The Police Executive Committee has agreed that the New Zealand Police Museum would benefit from the establishment of a charitable trust. Currently the Museum has no mechanism for attracting external capital funding, which has prevented strategic projects from gaining traction. The soon-to-be established trust will follow the responsible membership model, with trustees having specific roles and goals.

Establishing an Advisory Group

The staff at the New Zealand Police Museum are museum experts; they each have Post-graduate Diplomas or Masters Degrees in Museum Studies. They each have a passion for Police history and for preserving and exhibiting Police cultural property. They are not Police subject matter experts though, and have the common sense to know it. "Much that happens in policing is experiential, you have to live it to know it, and for that reason we are putting together a group of advisors who we can call on to support our work and decision making," says Museum Manager Rowan Carroll. Experts will be consulted from time-to-time to make sure we are getting it right.

Move in Reporting Line

In December 2012 the New Zealand Police Museum moved reporting lines from Corporate Services at The Royal New Zealand Police College to Public Affairs at Police National Headquarters. "Our relationship with the Police College has great strength," says Museum Manager Rowan Carroll. "We are still located here and provide museum services to staff and those in training. However, Public Affairs provides a good fit and will ensure we are escalated to achieve a national profile. The Museum is very important to the Police brand."

Working Together

We are lucky to have a fantastic pool of subject matter experts right on our doorstep assisting with some very special programmes for visiting groups. We work closely with the School of Community Policing and School of Initial Training at the Police College to provide groups with an authentic, positive and fun police experience they just couldn't get anywhere else.

The driver trainers at the Police College have been integral to our programming, hosting hundreds of people throughout 2012. Groups are taken through the training that is completed at the Police College, shown the skid track and some lucky visitors are even given a ride! We look forward to building our relationship with staff at the Police College in working towards our common goals under the Prevention First strategic framework.



Driver trainers demonstrating the skid track to members of Junior Neighbourhood Support.



Getting up close to police cars is a highlight for groups like Junior Neighbourhood Support.



A teacher from Springlands School looking a bit dazed after a whirl around the skid track!



The Junior Neighbourhood Support group loved getting inside the police cars.

About donating objects to the Museum

We do appreciate people considering the donation of an object to the New Zealand Police Museum, but due to limited space and resourcing priorities, we may not be able to accept all donations. Please don't be disappointed if your offer is declined.

The following list gives five common reasons why the Museum might decline the donation of an object. This list is not exhaustive and there may be other reasons not listed here that mean we cannot accept your donation.

1. Object is out of the Museum's scope. The object has not been used by the New Zealand Police or their predecessors.
2. Duplicate already in the collection. We might have a similar object of the same era already in our collection. We may provide you with a list of alternative museums that might be interested.
3. Poor condition. We must be very wary of accepting items in poor condition that may tax museum space and conservation resources, are too fragile to exhibit, or may damage other collection items.
4. Large size. We must be wary of accepting items that may tax our limited storage and display space.
5. Conditional gifts and permanent loans. Museums generally do not accept objects donated with conditions. For example, we cannot accept an artefact with the condition: 'this item must always be on display'.

We occasionally accept items for our education/tactile collection. These are artefacts that are available for supervised and unsupervised handling through the Museum's programmes, such as exhibitions and related events, education, and research services. It's expected that artefacts used in this way may eventually become worn out or broken and may be disposed of.

Serving police wondering what to do with old files, station books and other police-related publications should refer to the Retention and Disposal Schedule on the Police intranet. For further information contact Records Management staff within your station or district in the first instance, or email the Records Management Team at Police National Headquarters at recordkeeping.advice@police.govt.nz.

We are currently working on improving our collections stores. If you have significant items for the collection please hold on to them for the interim. Contact our Collection Officer, Sophie Giddens on (04) 238 3050 or Sophie.Giddens@police.govt.nz for storage advice.

Visitor Growth

The past six months have seen significant growth in visitor numbers; we are currently 40% up on the same period last year. October saw a 32% increase, December 40%, July 50%, November 53% and September a whopping 71%.

Part of the increase is due to the large volume of booked groups visiting the Museum and an increase in the size of some of the groups. The development of new outdoor programmes and the assistance of other workgroups, such as the driver trainers, has meant that we recently hosted a group of 125 children and 25 adults from Springlands School.

Roll mouse over filmstrip images to enlarge photos and see captions.

No Longer Seeking ...

Publications

The Museum is no longer accepting copies of the *New Zealand Police Gazette*, *New Zealand Police Law Report*, *New Zealand Police Journal*, *Ten One* or *Bulletin* magazines, because we have full sets of all of these publications.

Uniform items

We have a project underway to catalogue and rehouse our extensive uniform collection. General issue uniform items from late 1950s to mid 1970s are already well represented so are not being sought. However, we do ask that non-current uniform items are brought to us for disposal.

The Fuzz: Police Moustaches

'Movember' has become a tradition in New Zealand with men across the country growing moustaches every November to raise awareness and funds for men's health.

Last Movember we uncovered photos in our collection that put some of the present day examples to shame. The Fuzz, a temporary photographic exhibition, features photographs from between the 1880s and the present, providing a snapshot of police over more than 100 years. What unites the images is that they have been selected for their impressive moustaches.

The Fuzz is one of our series of changing exhibitions that maximises our extraordinary and diverse collection and aligns the displays with current campaigns, anniversaries and events. This makes the collection accessible and relevant, and encourages visitors to keep coming back.

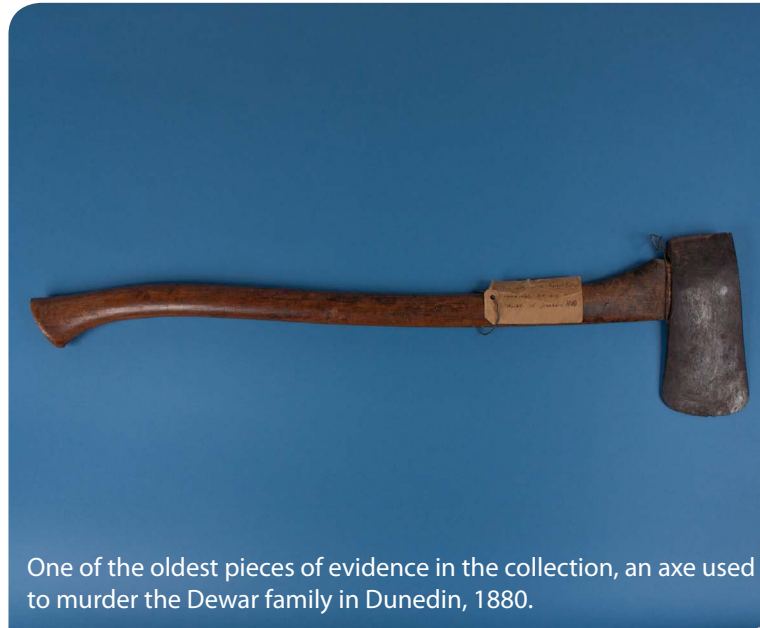
Roll mouse over filmstrip images to enlarge photos and see captions.

Photographers Introduced to Museum Collection

Members of the Introduction to Police Forensic Imaging course held at The Royal New Zealand Police College during September 2012 visited the Museum over two days to photograph historic evidence held in the Museum's permanent collection.

The course members were sympathetic to the requirements for handling and photographing museum objects with care, because of their training in handling evidence. They were challenged by some of the large objects and were fascinated by the artefacts themselves, which included murder weapons, framed illustrations produced as evidence in court, a sample of blood splattered wallpaper, and items of clothing worn during a robbery.

The partnership was mutually beneficial and re-establishes the Museum's role as a teaching collection for Police. The resulting photographs were submitted by the course members for their assessments and are also good quality, useful records for the Museum. They are linked to the Museum's Vernon Database for each object for identification purposes. Large versions of the images are filed to enable easy access when they are required for police and museum publications, displays or requested by external parties for use in research or publications.



One of the oldest pieces of evidence in the collection, an axe used to murder the Dewar family in Dunedin, 1880.

Museum updates

Container Arrives for Temporary Artefact Storage

Mid December saw the arrival of an early Christmas present for the Museum.

The 40 foot insulated container provides us with much needed temporary storage space in preparation for improvements to our collection storerooms over the next six months. It comes complete with a basic environmental control system that means we can adjust and monitor the conditions inside to match those in the Museum building. This is important because dramatic changes in temperature and humidity would result in damage to the artefacts.

As improvements are made inside the Museum we will control the temperature and relative humidity inside the storerooms and the container to reach the levels for the best preservation of the artefacts. This will ensure that when the artefacts move to their permanent home they will be acclimatised.

The container was craned into position next to the Museum building where it will house collection objects over the coming months while work is carried out to bring the Museum's collection storage areas up to recognised museum standards.

Collection Storerooms Get a Make-Over

Improved care, preservation and access to the Museum's fragile and important collections will be the result of the storeroom improvements. Evidence and police social history collections will be separated to enable the different levels of security, care and access required for the two collections.

Proposed improvements include installing a heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, data cabling to collection storage areas, mobile shelving units and improved fixed shelving. Collection Officer Sophie Giddens is excited by the developments, "We are working really hard to get the best value for money and the best solutions for our collection," she says.

FORCED TO STRIKE

THE WAIHĪ GOLD MINERS STRIKE
1912

Tuesday 12 November 1912 has become known as Black Tuesday, the day when striking mine engineer Frederick Evans died. The events surrounding his death have been the subject of debate and speculation for 100 years, with the reports of the day and subsequent published articles conflicting and adding to the myth.

The New Zealand Police Museum's exhibition *Forced to STRIKE! – Waihi 1912* backgrounds the events leading up to the Waihi gold miners' strike and covers the two factions – the Federationists and the Arbitrationists, and the role the New Zealand Police were tasked with – policing civil disobedience. The strongest focus, however, is on the police constable that Frederick Evans shot: Constable Gerald Wade.

"Constable Gerald Wade was on duty when shots were fired in the Union Hall, and when he went to investigate Frederick Evans shot him in the stomach.

Evans took aim at Constable Wade for the second time, but Constable Wade struck him with his baton. Evans died as a result and Constable Wade suffered for the rest of his life, carrying that bullet near his spine for 52 years," says Museum Manager Rowan Carroll.

The exhibition opened on 12 November 2012 and on that date Constable Wade's grandson David Walker released his book *Shades of Black*, a document in support of his grandfather. The book will be available at the Museum and the exhibition will run until May 2013.



Mounted police on duty, Waihi November 1912 NZ Police Museum Collection.

Got Caught: Stealing Hearts

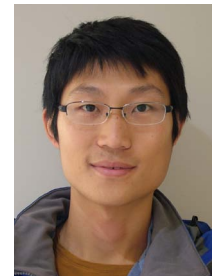
A mugshot from our ‘Suspicious Looking’ online exhibition has gone viral after the exhibition was featured in an article on stuff.co.nz. The mugshot of Daniel Tohill, now coined “New Zealand’s Most Photogenic Criminal”, was quickly picked up by image sharing sites such as Reddit, did the rounds in various memes on Facebook and was being talked about on countless blogs, radio and news websites such as 3news, Yahoo and Stuff as well as in print. One of the uploads had over half a million hits and it has been estimated by other commentators that if you add all the online views the audience would be well into the tens of millions.

The public were taken with Tohill’s good looks; swooning comments included, “That hair and moustache combo makes me melt a little,” and “What was your crime? Stealing the hearts of women?” and likenesses were drawn with David Beckham and actors Michael Fassbender and James Van Der Beek. Tohill’s new-found fame also prompted some bloggers to dig deeper into his past. We now know that Tohill had previously been charged with stealing two ferrets in Christchurch in 1906 before he was arrested in 1907 for stealing a bicycle and a fur necklet in Napier. The now infamous mugshot was taken in 1908. Although he was acquitted of the bicycle theft, he was sentenced to four months hard labour for stealing the necklet. Tohill’s criminal record ended there, and he later moved with his wife and young children to Auckland, where he died in 1950, aged 68.

We have since been inundated with requests for Mr Tohill’s image and he now even features in advertising for the newly re-furbished Otago Settlers Museum as Tohill was born in Dunedin in 1881, the third of 18 children.

Roll mouse over images to enlarge photos and see captions.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!



Cheng Shi



Claire Munro



Pauline Robb



Cole Skilton



Lou Forhecz



Cathy Martin



Peter Lane



Tricia Evans



Elizabeth Plumridge

EVIDENCE OF HISTORY IN ACTION

Please contact us for more information and for updates visit:
www.police.govt.nz/service/museum

