





## All revved up

Once the sleepy seaside suburb of Ahuriri was the backwater cousin to its illustrious inner city neighbour on the other side of the hill. Now a significant council rejuvenation programme and foresight by careful local developers has seen a new Ahuriri, all revved up and ready to go.



# Quay attraction

On a sunny day Ahuriri's inner harbour is picture perfect wherever you look.

**editorial** roger moroney **picture** lee warren

The eye catching and stylish Quay Gallery, dealers in contemporary and traditional fine art, on Ahuriri's West Quay is stunning and inspirational. Welcomed by owner Richard Meyer, customers are treated to paintings, sculptures, glassworks, ceramics and bronzes of the country's finest contemporary and traditional artists.

In a unique move Richard and partner,

the renowned painter Sue Schaare, have an on-license for their customers to enjoy a wine, relax on a comfortable leather sofa and take in the works of art. Individual artists can be observed at work in their studios courtesy of an LCD screen.

Exhibitions are held regularly and during the winter, one evening a month a guest speaker is invited to talk on a topic associated with art.

These evenings are very popular and provide an excellent informative view. Quay Gallery exhibits the very best of local and New Zealand artists for what is a unique art experience and is open 7 days. This is an 'experience the difference' gallery.

[www.quaygallery.co.nz](http://www.quaygallery.co.nz)

14 West Quay, Ahuriri



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Wander around the fabulously revamped area of Ahuriri, Napier's original port, and find an array of hidden treasures that are definitely worth a visit. Aptly named Port O Call is strategically situated here and is the most gorgeous shop bursting with treasures and finesse.

This is an English style, classy tearoom with an added adventure in the most exquisite giftware, chic homewares, designer clothing and vintage furniture.

The tea is superb and absolutely irresistible with a choice ranging from classic black tea to fruit infusions, always prepared in a china pot with a tea cosy and served in a lovely china tea cup. Beautifully presented the tea is accompanied with your choice of tea cakes or sandwiches and always with fragrant flowers.

"We have now introduced an excellent menu for lunches," said owner Angela Bashnick, adding that this year there is a ticketed event for Art Deco at Port O Call. "This is a place to come and get dressed up and have fun," she said pointing out the whole range of dress-ups that include gloves and assorted hats. And there are often ladies coming in to try hats on and they can sit and enjoy their tea and reminisce of a time gone by.

It's not just for the ladies however, as Angela is putting together cooking classes

## Your call

If high teas and dressing up in hats is your thing here's the perfect place to call into.

**editorial judi hopkinson pictures lee warren**

for young girls. "These will be fun classes for nine to twelve year olds," Angela beams. "They're about learning simple cooking to make something really yummy and dress up while doing it!"

### Artistic talent

Port O Call has a lovely old-fashioned ambience where, once you have enjoyed the romance of the cafe, you can enjoy the many other treasures in the shop. In the two years since Angela has had Port O Call she has sourced talented New Zealanders' work, from experienced artists to young designers and given them the opportunity to present their work in the shop.

The range is eclectic with an amazing range of jewellery by Deb Bell who hand makes each of the delicately beautiful beads for one-off pieces from imported Italian glass. Deb is multi-

talented as many of her paintings adorn the shop walls and her designer clothes are elegant with romantic flair. "I like to add details to enhance women's curves," said Deb. "It's great to show off and accentuate curves!"

Port O Call also stocks local jewellery designer Shelley Vonstern's work with one off pieces in glass and resin and exclusive to the shop. There is a selection of vintage furniture from four seater couches, french style two seaters, to vintage beds and all refurbished beautifully in designer fabrics. Also worthy of a mention are the blue and pink 1950s Kelvinator fridges, and the interesting works with recycled products by Lisa Harman.

Where else in Hawke's Bay can you experience such a varied outing? A visit here is definitely worth the Port O Call!

**9 Nelson Quay, Ahuriri (06) 833 6688**