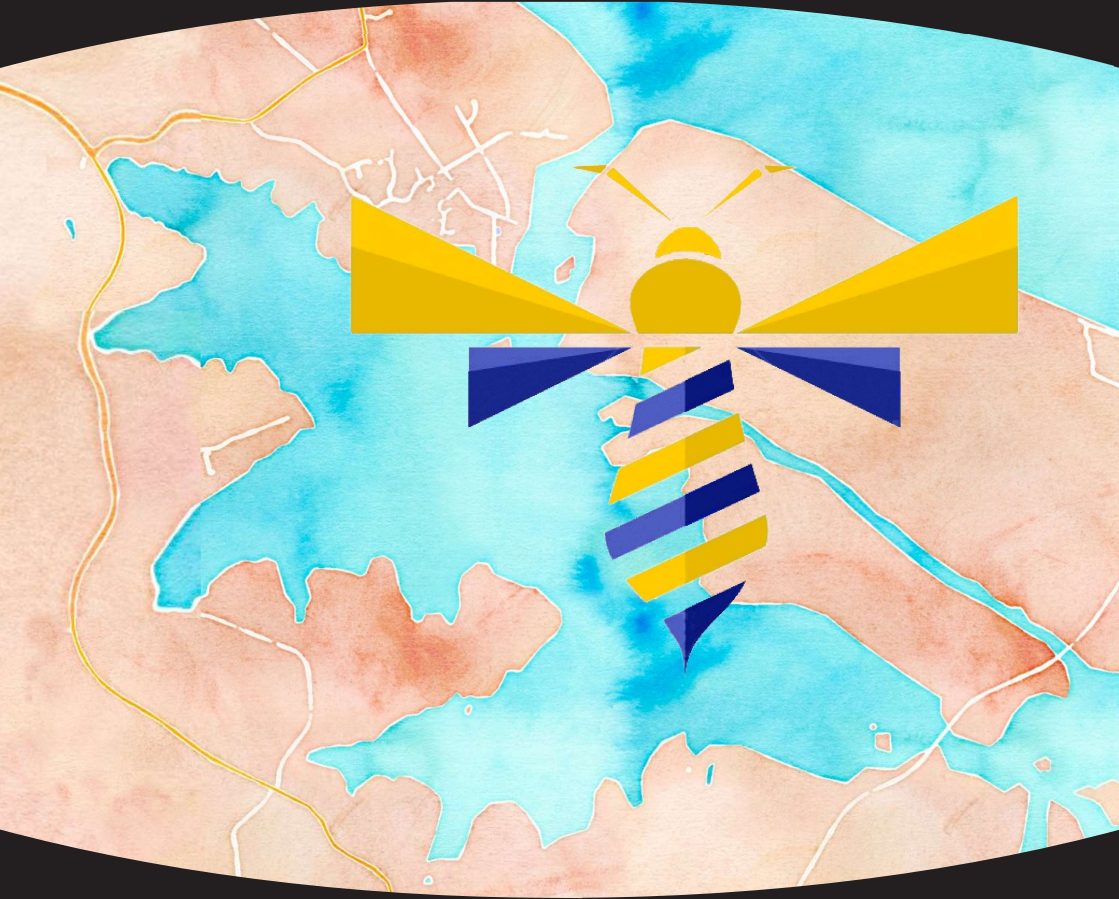


# Māpua

*'Bee'n the Light'*



Art proposal

# Mapua 'Bee'n the Light' ART PROPOSAL

My name is Maeve Allen and I am writing to you to propose a collaboration so as to create some beautiful and meaningful art for the Mapua community.

I am a locally based artist and have recently purchased a property in Ruby Bay with my husband Richard. We are currently developing this semi-rural property into a sculptural garden named "Bee Haven." The garden will serve to highlight the message of our poor behaviour in failing to look after our bees and other pollinators. My husband and I believe in the value of educational sculptures with the lessons and appeal they provide.

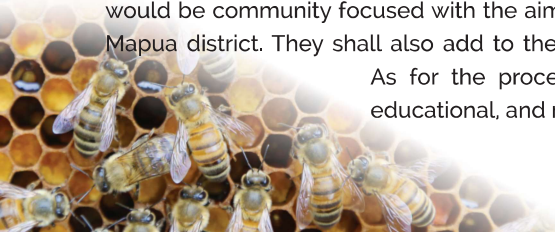
As an artist I specialise in commercial and community sculptures with my work being recognised at both a local and national level. My career has spanned more than 15 years where I have specialised in mosaic art, large sculpture displays and turned the raw products of nature into precious works. My focus when creating art is to ensure it tells the story of its owner, or the community it represents. The process is driven by my ability to visualise the end product as I get to know and understand my clients.



An example of my work is the piece named 'Arrivals and Departure' which sits at Port Motueka. This was a commissioned piece I completed in 2019 after collaborating closely with the Arts Council of Motueka. This piece brings me great pride as it was a collective effort to produce a sculpture that belongs to no one but is owned by everyone.

I now have the desire to work with the Mapua/Ruby Bay/Tasman community, including its local schools, to produce a range of sculptured pieces. These pieces would be community focused with the aim of enhancing the vibrant ambience of the Mapua district. They shall also add to the unique character and charm of this area.

As for the process, I wish it to be positive, enlightening, educational, and most of all, fun for all.



As I have interacted more closely with this community I have noticed the community's identification with the ocean. The magnificent sculptures located at the highway entrances truly demonstrate a community's vision. I would love the opportunity to add to this by creating pieces that may be used by all

### **.Art overview/proposal:**

As bees have served as both my inspiration and passion for the last few years, my proposal does highlight the wonderful bee. My journey has enlightened me to the crucial role bees play in our world, and it astounds me that most are unaware of this. Bees provide us with our fruits, nuts and vegetables, but are also an essential element in the production of animal products. For example, the majority of animal feeds contain plant products which are reliant on the pollination of bees. Without bees the production of food products would not only become near-on impossible, but would in turn become expensive to purchasers.

Furthermore, bees contribute to aquaculture as commercially raised fish are typically fed pelletized foods that contain soya bean, lupine and rape seed oil. These are produced with the pollination of bees.

This project is based around the importance of our bees as the world faces disappearing resources, shrinking agricultural space, new pests, climate change and ever-increasing globalisation.



The focus of the project would be to elevate the district's profile and personality. It would aim to boost tourism by inviting more to the district with art pieces & community events.

It could begin with a slogan such as 'MAPUA BEE'N THE LIGHT,' and a central bee lighthouse logo. These concepts were created to align with the sea-theme

that already exists in the Mapua community, but works to include the districts impressive horticultural history. I believe the project would bring great publicity to the Mapua district as it installs a new artwork that speaks about important world issues.

I would also hope to include many others in the project, such as the numerous artists located in the district as well as local businesses, clubs, community groups and in particular the local school.



## The Art Pieces

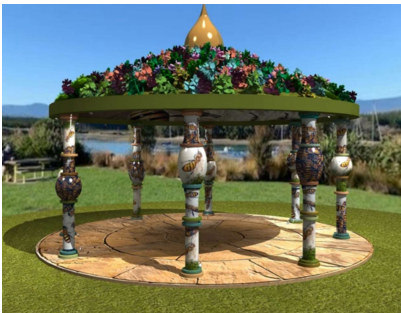
Renowned American Artistic founder 'The Good of the Hive' Matt Willey.

(Please find attached more details regarding Matt's work)

I have been communicating with Matt in regards to this proposal and have received confirmation that he would be willing to paint a unique, commissioned, Bees mural within a dome for the Mapua district. This would become part of his global campaign, instantly putting the community as one of the best places to visit just for this art alone.

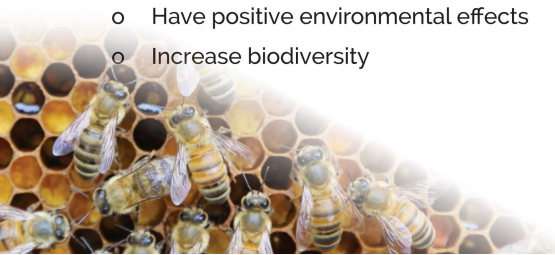
Matt's visit would hugely impact on this project and as part of his visit he will do two public speeches discussing his bee passion, art and motivation for choosing the Mapua district to be part of his international project.

A 6.6 metre round dome that can be positioned on the waterfront area. The top of the dome could be designed as a living roof to meet the bees' needs. This would use pre-grown low maintenance, lightweight sedums and succulents including natives, tussocks and grasses. Pictures below show a painted roof & one with a planted roof for comparison purposes.



The dome would also:

- o Be aesthetically pleasing
- o Absorb rainwater
- o Absorb Carbon and improve air quality
- o Provide a shaded spot for families to picnic
- o Beautify the already planted surrounding area
- o Have positive environmental effects
- o Increase biodiversity



Matt Willey would paint the inside of the dome and the fibreglass bulbous leg ornaments I have designed.

Every business that wishes to be involved would receive their own bee business related symbol in the form of a hexagon shaped plaque that reflect their trade/industry. These symbols could then be used for individual promotion e.g., menus/business cards/keyrings etc. These would create a linked concept throughout the community for visitors to enjoy and seek out.

Three samples are available for viewing:  
Hairdressers/Real estate/Local green grocer

A Bee lighthouse sculpture, which would keep the sea-theme forefront.

There are several other pieces to add to this project long-term and I would be happy to discuss these further eg. Living notice board & cycleway.

This but provides a small glimpse at the ideas I have. I look forward to sharing my ideas in person and if this project is greeted with enthusiasm the chance to discuss how we could include the community/local schools would be welcomed.

Kindest regards



Maeve Allen.



# Partners

Matt Willey



Endorsed Idea – Ready to proceed

<https://www.thegoodofthehive.com/>

The Good of the Hive® is a global art project and organization founded by artist Matt Willey on a personal commitment to hand-paint 50,000

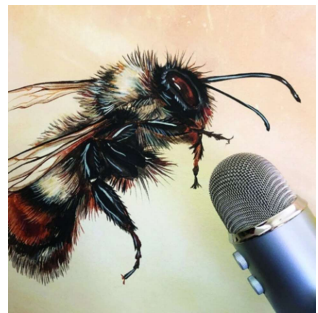


honey bees – the number necessary for a healthy, thriving hive – in murals around the world. The mission: ignite radical curiosity for planetary health issues through art and storytelling. The bee and her hive are the artist's symbols, but at the essence it is about activating and celebrating the power in human connection.

Honey bees within the hive 'think' collectively. They are hard-wired to understand that their immune system is collective. Their health is based on the health of the hive, not the individual bee. After a personal experience with a honey bee in 2008, Matt realized that human health is the same way, although we rarely act like it. If COVID-19 has taught us anything it is that we are truly all connected more deeply than we realize. The global hive Matt is painting is a metaphor for the connectedness of all things. The bees are a symbol for humans, trees, animals, pollinators, water, soil and everything in between.

## Quote from Matt;

'The health of a honey bee is based on the health of the hive, not the individual bee. Collective action is necessary for growth and expansion. Humans are the same way, although we rarely act like it. Many of the issues we face today are not divided by borders. In fact, bee health or pollination issues are more likely to be solved by transcending them.'



**People who have supported this project to this stage**



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**Suzi and Jason Davis**  
( & Lily Davis who created the wonderful  
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**People who have supported this project to this stage - cont**



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## **Bee Lighthouse – Mapua Bee'n the Light**

I chose the Bee Lighthouse allegory for the Mapua Bee-Project; firstly to encompass the Mapua Waterfront Park development & secondly to link the two, soon to be three inspiring sea-themed sculptures at the entrances into the Mapua, Ruby Bay & Moutere areas.

I feel the Bee Lighthouse is the ideal metaphor for a reference point keeping the sea-theme that, as of now, credits Mapua and surroundings.

The Bee Lighthouse herein, will be the soul of the project, the story, the craft, the beauty & the BRAND.

Inherited by everyone but owned by no one, Mapua's personality and spirit.

Animals like bees use polarization patterns in the sky as a navigational aid in order to source food.

Lighthouses use light to cross the darkness as beacons of civilisation that symbolise human presence and safety, this also signifies HOPE.



I'd like to think we can offer these same fundamental values (intrinsic principles) to our tiny pollinators, the bees.

For the bees; the Bee Lighthouse would be a sign of social well-being & embody a new interaction of human presence offering the bee & other pollinators anchorage & sanctuary.

The lighthouse expresses the totality of nature by uniting the water at its edge, the earth of its foundation, the air it rises into, and the fire blazing at its highest point.

The Bee Lighthouse collectively expresses nature at its persistent infinite; without bees there would be no food, clothing, medications or life itself, bees are the noblest insects on earth.

**Let US Bee 'Engaged Citizens'**



**Māpua**  
*'Bee'n the Light'*

