DEER CULLING PRINT SERIES

My name is Meg Wilson and I am an artist based in Mercer, North Waikato. For the past two years I have been learning a new form of printmaking called mokulito (plywood lithography) and have created a large series of works based around the "deer culling" era.

Throughout my artistic career I seem to come back to figures in landscapes, and while I don't have an immediate connection to any of the government shooters, I learnt about them through my partner, who is a keen hunter. My research began online and through books, then I started collecting images, mostly through different websites or facebook groups. The "figure in landscape" concept worked well with these men, and I found that the imagery laid on top of the plywood grain created a sort of new landscape, almost as if the grain acted as a contour line, positioning the men in my own "imagined" landscape.

To give a simplistic description of the process I use, a layer of gum arabic is applied to a sanded piece of finnish birch plywood as an etch and left to dry to be printed another day. The gum arabic is then washed out before printing, and the plywood is ready to be printed in a similar way to traditional lithography-keeping the surface damp with water and applying oil based ink using a foam roller. The same lithographic principle applies (oil and water don't mix) and the grain of the ply is "protected" by the water and will not take up the ink. The plywood is then run through a traditional printing press and the printed image appears on the paper. The first layer of my prints (where you can see wood grain) is what is created using this method.

The next layer involves dry point etching-using a sharp tool to make marks/drawings in plexiplate (a plastic plate) which is then smeared with ink and wiped clean, leaving ink in the marks only. This then goes through the printing press with the dampened piece of paper to create the layer that you can see as a sort of drawing. Finally, I use watercolour to add final touches to the etched image.

The collection of these processes means there is often setbacks along the way (mokulito is fairly inconsistent due to the nature of wood), and results in small limited editions (five at the most).

Over the past year I have attempted to "perfect" the process, and feel I have now naturally come to an end, and have created enough works to form a series that can be enjoyed by the deer culling fraternity. I am hoping to exhibit the work within the next year or so, and while I have been selling a few along the way, I will ensure there is at least one print left from each edition to create a full set to be displayed together.

Meg Wilson

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"Alf Douglas"



"Gidday Jock"



"Bivvy bound"



"Lookin' forward, lookin' back"





"Born under a wandering star"



"Ready for our next skinful"



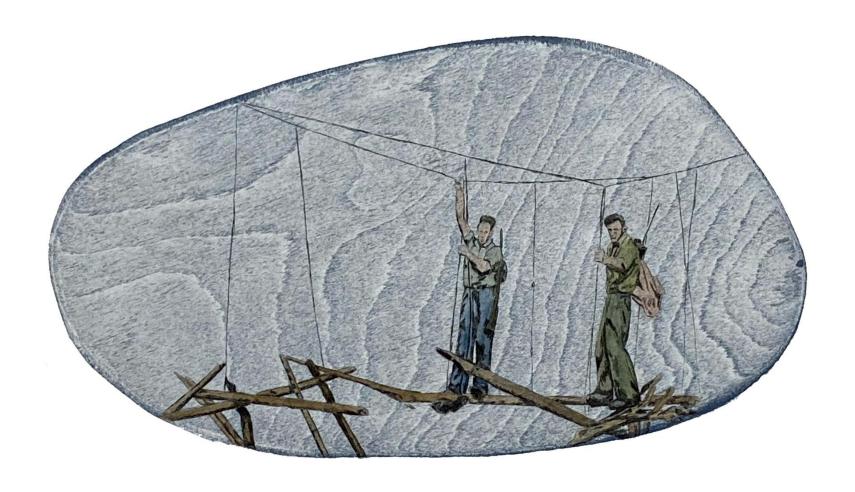
"Getting to the tail end of it"



"The long and short of it"



"Over the hill"



"Bridge over troubled water"



"Makeriri Hut"



"Waitin' for the wind to change"



"One foot after the other"



"Breakin' the ice"



"Shelter on a shoestring"



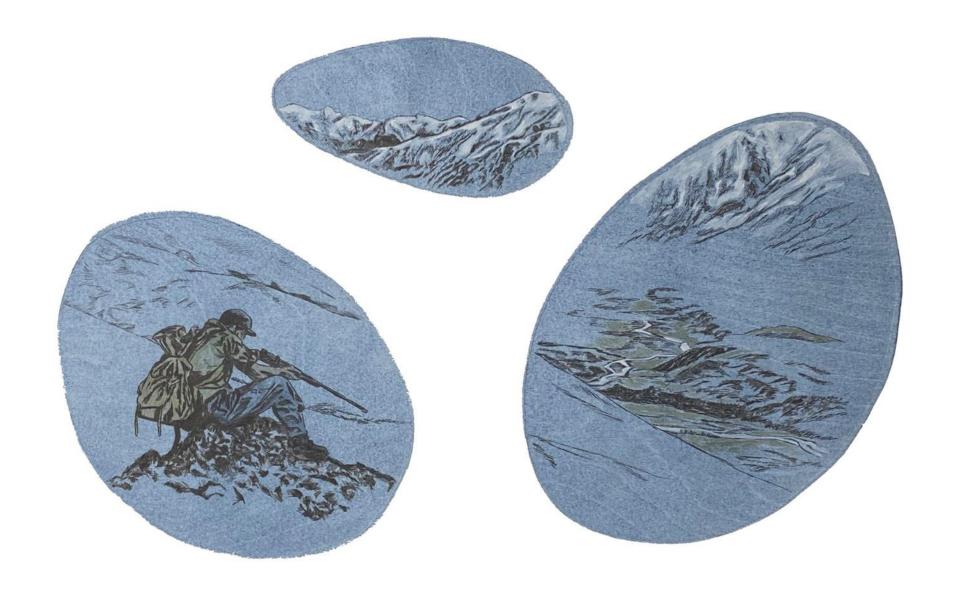
"At it's peak"



"Peak of solitude"



"Before you bend your elbow, you must learn to bend your back"



"Cold comfort for change"



"To the valley below"



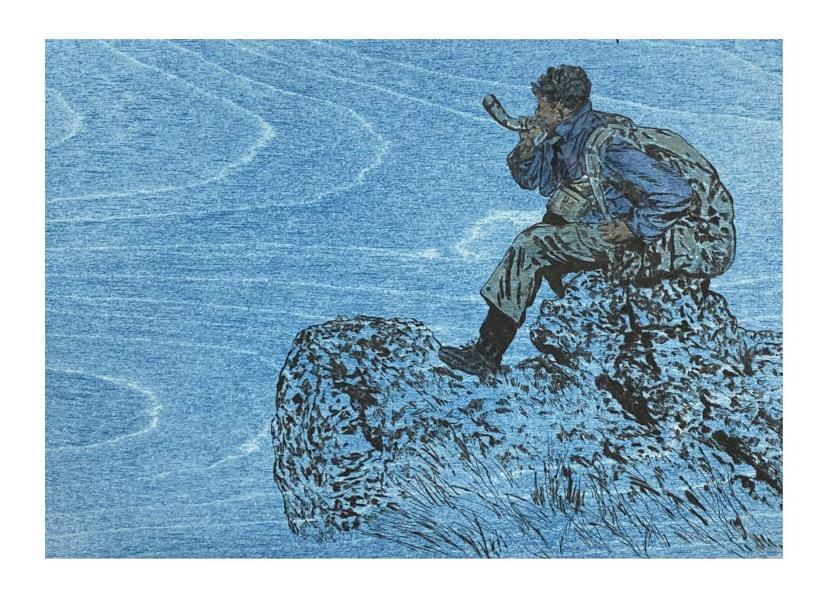
"Big loads, hurry back"



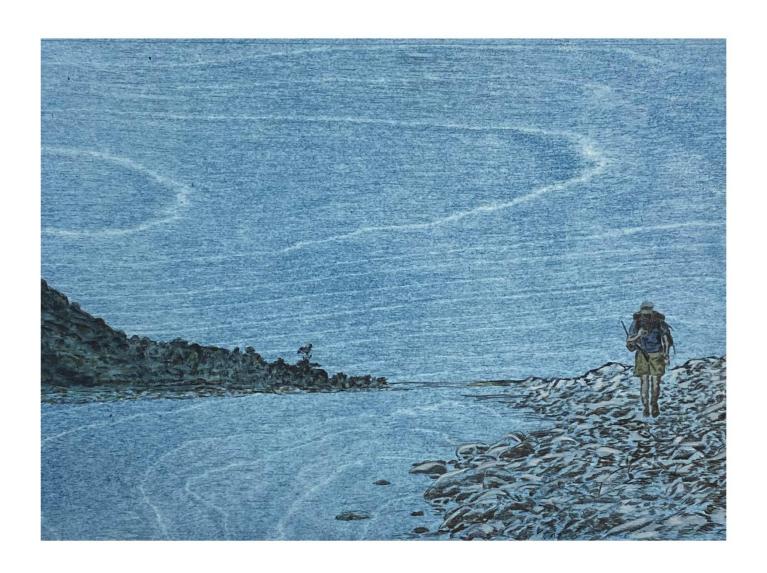
Beauty and the beast



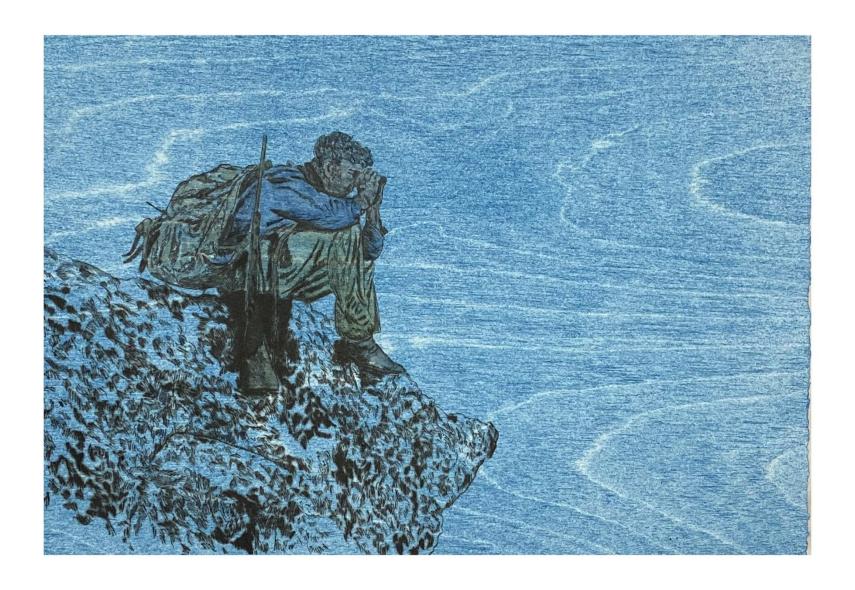
"80 pound pack"



"A holy war"



"Attracted many, suited a few"



"Glassing down"

	Title	Dimensions	Price	Edition size	Available
1	"Alf Douglas"	300x420	270	4	4
2	"Gidday Jock"	300x420	270	3	3
3	"Bivvy Bound"	300x420	270	4	2
4	"Lookin' forward, lookin' back"	300x420	270	3	3
5	"The man who lived by luck"	300x420	270	3	2
6	"Born under a wandering star"	300x420	270	5	5
7	"Ready for our next skinful"	300x420	270	4	4
8	"Getting to the tail end of it"	300x420	270	3	3
9	"The long and short of it"	300x420	270	3	3
10	"Over the hill"	300x420	270	3	3
11	"Bridge over troubled water"	300x420	270	3	2
12	"Makeriri Hut"	300x420	270	2	1
13	"Waitin' for the wind to change"	300x420	270	3	3
14	"One foot after the other"	300x420	270	3	3
15	"Breakin' the ice"	300x420	270	3	3
16	"Shelter on a shoestring"	300x420	270	2	1
17	"At it's peak"	300x420	270	5	5
18	"Peak of solitude"	300x420	270	4	4
19	"To the valley below"	420x600	450	4	4
20	"Before you bend your elbow, you must learn to bend your back"	420x600	450	2	2
21	"Cold comfort for change"	420x600	450	3	3
22	"Big loads, hurry back"	420x600	450	2	2
23	"Beauty and the beast"	420x600	450	1	1
24	"80 pound pack"	210x300	180	3	3
25	"A holy war"	210x300	180	4	4
26	"Attracted many suited a few"	210x300	180	4	3
27	"Glassing down"	210x300	180	3	3