

Curious visitors take a peek inside Veronica Slater's wallpapered art caravan.

Art for sale – at Veronica's Mull 'caravan show'

IT IS AN unlikely place for an art exhibition – a small, dilapidated caravan on the Ross of Mull.

A year after artist Veronica Slater moved to the island and several rolls of wallpaper later, she is using it to show her obsession with Mull's mobile homes.

'I was looking for a place to work, a studio,' said Veronica. 'I thought a caravan was going to be what's most available. And that got me looking at all the old caravans.'

She took over a small one, formerly in use as a potting shed, near Fionnphort.

'Because I didn't have any canvasses or anything, I started working on the caravan itself.' She covered the exterior with a classic wallpaper to create an unusual inside-out work of art. Story by CHRISTINE McCARTNEY

On display inside the mobile home are a series of painted ornaments by the artist.

It has been open to the public this month as part of an exhibition entitled Caravan, with further paintings, photographs and film footage on show at An Tobar Arts Centre in Tobermory.

Veronica said the exhibition has been warmly received, as it draws on a familiar feature of the Mull landscape.

'It's been great, it's been fantastic. It connects the community. Caravans are very much an intrinsic part of life on Mull.'

The work has used locallysourced or recycled materials. Veronica designed her own caravan-themed wallpaper, using photographs taken on Mull, printed on paper supplied by Mull and Iona Environmentally Sensitive Solutions.

'People have really engaged with the wallpaper with all the caravan pictures on it; they have been spotting their caravan.' She added many islanders had stories to tell about the caravans, their owners, history and locations.

The art show finishes tomorrow (Friday) after which Veronica has big ideas for her small premises. She has not ruled out taking the twowheeled studio on the road with a west coast tour.

'All the west coast islands have this particular relationship with caravans,' she said. 'This caravan is probably not going to go anywhere, though, it's seen better days.'