

MUSEUM

MARCH
APRIL
MAY

2002

A Quarterly Guide to Exhibitions and Events
at Auckland War Memorial Museum

ISSUE 90



QUARTERLY



Director's message

SUSTAINING SPONSOR



Auckland War Memorial Museum
Domain Drive Auckland Domain

Open 10am – 5pm daily
Except Christmas Day
and Anzac morning.

Admission is by donation.
\$5 is appreciated.
Children, of course, are free.
Charges may apply to
special exhibitions.

Infoline: 09 306 7067
Enquiries: 09 309 0443
Website: www.aucklandmuseum.org.nz

Library: 09 306 7070 extn 687 or 686
Open Monday – Friday, 1pm – 5pm

Museum Store: 09 309 2580

Auckland Museum Institute:
09 306 7070 extn 883

Venue hire: 09 306 7056

Services to schools: 09 306 7040



2002 marks a special anniversary for Auckland Museum. This year, New Zealand's oldest museum turns 150. It is a year of celebration and a time to express gratitude to our many supporters.

Since our establishment in 1852, the Museum has been shaped by many characters; curators, directors, curious collectors, and of course, members of the public. The Museum has assumed many forms, occupied various buildings and taken on the mantle of a war memorial, cultural guardian and beloved Auckland landmark.

Behind all of these developments, has been the generosity of our funders; sponsors, local authorities, charitable trusts and public donors.

In the current financial year, the Museum received handsome funding from non-core supporters. The ASB Charitable Trust has provided funds for security and IT improvements along with equipment for our Library; the Chisholm Whitney Family Trust is enabling critical conservation work on the Egyptian mummy, while the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board is assisting with the cataloguing of our human history collections. Other significant grants include Marsden funding for joint research with The University of Auckland and an Asia 2000 award for curatorial research in Korea. We have also welcomed NZI, Montana and Vodafone as sponsors.

Together these grants have brought to the Museum over a million dollars of additional funding for new initiatives. Needless to say, we are extremely grateful to these supporters for their investment in the work of our Museum. Through such generosity, Auckland Museum will embrace the next 150 years as a proud and researched community resource.

Dr T.L. Rodney Wilson



Weird and Wonderful to close for revamp

Weird and Wonderful, the Museum's original Discovery Centre, is being refurbished as part of the Museum's 150th birthday celebrations.

The Centre, which provides hands-on fun for children of all ages, will be closed to visitors between mid-June and late October 2002.

Head of interpretive services, Cecilia Gullery says the new Weird and Wonderful will retain the best of the existing Centre, while incorporating new ideas and activities. Treasures and Tales, the partner Centre to Weird and Wonderful, will remain open throughout the refurbishment period.

news in brief

Museum records its past

For Museum history buffs, the latest copy of *Museum Records* (volume 37/38), contains a paper on the early years of Auckland Museum. The article, which focuses on the Museum's occupation of its Princes Street premises prior to 1929, includes reconstructed floor plans of the old building and photographs of the old Museum's galleries. Copies of *Museum Records* can be viewed in the Museum Library.

Illustrated histories from the Store

Two books by the Museum's ethnology curator, Professor Roger Neich, are on sale at the Museum Store.

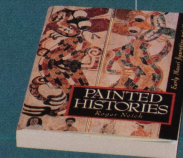
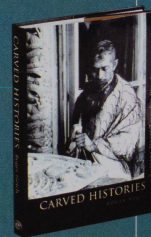
Carved Histories, a study of the tradition of Maori carving by the Ngati Tarawhai woodcarvers of Rotorua, was published in December and is available at the Museum Store for \$89.95, while *Painted Histories*, a survey of the use of figurative painting within Maori meeting-houses, has been reprinted in paperback and retails at \$59.95.

NZI supports Museum birthday

Auckland Museum is proud to acknowledge NZI as the principal sponsor of its birthday exhibition, *More than a Mummy - 150 Years of Collecting*. First founded in 1859, NZI shares a history as rich as the Museum's and has been a supporter of Auckland Museum for a number of years. Director of Auckland Museum, Dr Rodney Wilson says NZI has been protecting the nation's treasures for nearly as long as the Museum: "We are delighted to have NZI's support in this special birthday year, and are very grateful for their continued support." For more information on *More than a Mummy*, see page 4.

Obituary

Les Kermode, retired geologist and Museum research associate, has died aged 70. A key contributor to a number of the Museum's natural history displays including the Land Gallery's limestone cave, Les was a dedicated Museum friend and fan. Colleague and entomology curator, John Early said of Les: "A geologist right to the end, Les died with his boots on doing what he loved, explaining the mysteries of basalt larva flows on Rangitoto Island. He will be sadly missed by his friends at Auckland Museum."



2002 marks a special birthday for New Zealand's oldest museum. On 27 October, Auckland Museum will turn 150.

Celebrating 150 Years 1852-2002



To commemorate this unique event, the Museum is hosting a year of celebrations, including *More than a Mummy - 150 Years of Collecting*, a special exhibition profiling some of the Museum's most loved treasures and colourful characters, and a range of public programmes based around the birthday themes of diversity, celebration and origins.

Other initiatives include the development of a database tracing the history of Auckland's streets, the launch of a Maori and Pacific resource centre and the refurbishment of Weird and Wonderful, one of the Museum's Discovery Centres.

October will see the opening of an exceptional exhibition on a very special New Zealander. *The Hillary Exhibition*, a show profiling the life and achievements of Sir Edmund Hillary, will open on the Museum's official birthday, and will coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the Everest ascent in 2003.

A special commemorative book, entitled *150 Treasures*, has also been published in celebration of this event. Congratulations to Rodney Davies, who has won his own copy of *150 Treasures* after correctly answering our competition from the last edition of *MQ*.

For updates on the Museum's birthday events, call the infoline on 306 7067, and check our website.

Left: *Kave (Goddess Figure)*
Nukuoro, Caroline Islands/wood/H 220cm



A POTTED HISTORY OF AUCKLAND MUSEUM

First founded in 1852 in a two-room farm cottage on Auckland's Grafton Road, the Museum moved to its current site in 1929 after funds were raised to combine a war memorial with a world-class museum.

Originally established with ethnology and natural history collections, the Museum's collecting interests have evolved over the years to include military history, social history and the decorative arts.

Above: *Gold Frog*
Panama/c. AD 900-1200
copper, gold/L 13cm

- 1852 - 1870** Auckland Museum based in a Grafton cottage
- 1870 - 1876** The Museum occupies temporary rooms in Princes Street
- 1876 - 1929** The Museum moves to its first purpose-built accommodation in Princes Street
- 1929 - 1960** War memorial funds and an international architecture competition result in the building of Auckland War Memorial Museum in Auckland's Domain
- 1960 - 2000** Additional funds are raised to expand the Museum and its war memorials to incorporate World War II and other conflicts
- 2000** The Museum is refurbished in a multimillion-dollar restoration project
- 2002** Auckland Museum turns 150



The Museum in Princes Street



The Museum's official opening in 1929

More than a mummy

150 YEARS OF COLLECTING

Marking the Museum's sesquicentennial is an exhibition celebrating the Museum's 150 years of collecting. The show, which will include some of the Museum's most significant and unusual objects, opens in April and weaves a multi-layered tale of acquisition and expansion.

John Early, co-curator of *More than a Mummy - 150 Years of Collecting*, says the show is a reflection of a century and a half of our history.

"Museums and their collections constantly evolve and grow over time in response to many factors – leadership and vision, personalities, serendipity, the political and social climate, the buildings they inhabit and the facilities available.

"This museum's collections are a mirror, reflecting its history. The exhibition invites visitors to take a peek in this mirror and view some of the collections that have seldom or never been exhibited before."

Objects selected for the show reflect the breadth of the Museum's collections; birds shot by President Theodore Roosevelt, a Victorian beetle collection, souvenirs of war, a letter from Captain Cook, Anglo-Saxon coins and contemporary jewellery.

Special appearances include a three-dimensional animated 'hologram' of the Museum's mummy (three-D glasses will be on-hand for mummy fans). The real mummy is currently undergoing conservation and will not be on display in the show.



Above: Paper Nautilus, Pupu Tarakihī, *Argonauta nodosa*

Below: Mummy Portrait, Egypt/c. AD 100-400/ wood, wax, pigment H 38.7cm



**MORE THAN A MUMMY IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY NZI
AND IS ON DISPLAY FROM 27 APRIL UNTIL FEBRUARY 2003**



In honour of Auckland's servicemen and women, this Anzac day will see a number of commemorative events at Auckland War Memorial Museum.

Lest we forget

ANZAC DAY 2002

Opening at midday after the dawn parade and 11am service, the Museum will host *Gunner Inglorious*, a one-man play based on the autobiography of World War II veteran Jim Henderson. Performed and adapted for the stage by Michael Burton, *Gunner Inglorious* is directed by Maggie Tarver, and begins at 12.30pm.

Children can design their own medals and make poppies in Discovery Centre workshops from 12.30pm until 3.30pm, and from 1pm until 4pm, military badges and medals may be brought to the Museum's Armoury Resource Centre for identification. Visitors can also access the Cenotaph database, the Museum's records of over 30,000 New Zealand war dead.

The Jubilate Singers will perform moving songs of remembrance at 2pm, and at 3pm the Museum will screen the first of its *Time in Motion* film series in association with the New Zealand Film Archive. Based on the theme of war and remembrance, the programme, entitled *Lest we Forget*, presents rare and historic footage of New Zealanders at war.



The 1914-15 World War I Star.

PRIVATE PATON'S PHOTOS: NORTH AFRICA 1941 - 42

Coinciding with Anzac commemorations this April, is the first of a series of exhibitions curated in association with the New Zealand Herald. Focusing on intimate and epic moments from the Western Desert campaign through the eye of front line soldier Harold Paton, *Private Paton's Photos* provides a rare glimpse of Kiwi soldiers at war and at peace.



ON DISPLAY FROM LATE APRIL IN THE PICTORIAL GALLERY

The New Zealand Herald
THERE'S A LOT MORE TO IT
nzherald.co.nz

For nearly 40 years, renowned journalist and documentary-maker John Pilger, has been reporting major news stories from around the globe.

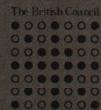
REPORTING THE WORLD

John Pilger's great eyewitness photographers

Photographer Dorothea, 1969. The image falls into the category of the husband and wife, who all died in battle.



ON DISPLAY FROM 4 MAY UNTIL 21 JULY



From the killing fields of Cambodia, to the assassination of Bobby Kennedy, Pilger, a giant in the world of investigative journalism, has recorded and exposed international issues, accompanied by some of the world's finest photo-journalists.

Reporting the World, is Pilger's selection of photographs and world events; a jigsaw of the key stories and troublespots from the latter half of the 20th century.

"In bringing together this selection," says Pilger, "my aim has been to show how great photographers are both story-tellers and truth-tellers, going against the consensual versions of events, such as the illusions of 'booming' economics and 'smart' wars..."

Supported by Pilger's in-depth captions and commentary, *Reporting the World* is a graphic and stirring portrait of humanity in conflict.

Reporting the World was first exhibited at the Barbican in London and is supported by the British Council. Viewers may find some images disturbing.

ADULTS \$10 CONCESSIONS \$7.50

Ice and Fire

NEW ZEALAND AND THE KOREAN WAR 1950-1953



Ice and Fire is a photographic exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of New Zealand's involvement in the Korean War.

New Zealand was quick to respond to the United Nation's call to assist South Korea, and just eight days after the outbreak of war, Prime Minister Sidney Holland sent two frigates, HMNZS *Tutira* and *Pukaki* to join the British fleet in Korea. New Zealand's part in the Korean War consisted of three years in combat in addition to an ongoing peacekeeping mission. This display, which has been produced with the support of the New Zealand government and the New Zealand Korean Veterans' Association, features many images of New Zealanders leaving home, in combat, on-leave in Japan and during the 1952 ceasefire.

Around 6,000 New Zealanders served in Korea and 43 died. Many photographs on display were taken by Ian Mackley, the Army's official photographer in Korea, and tell the story of the Korean War through the perspective of ordinary New Zealanders.

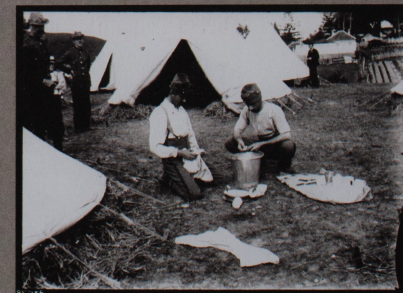
ICE AND FIRE RUNS FROM 7 APRIL THROUGH MAY

Volunteers and Militia is an exhibition focusing on the first 50 years of volunteers and militia in the Auckland region. On display in the Hall of Memories, the exhibition will feature uniforms, medals, memorabilia and a selection of photographs from the Museum's collections.

Funds from the Wellington Army Association and the 3rd Battalion Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment have enabled the Museum to purchase the uniforms and accessories of Thomas Viret Shepherd, Commanding Officer of the Auckland Military District in the 1880s. This display is the first opportunity to showcase this recent acquisition.

Other items on display include a selection of photographs by noted female photographer Margaret Matilda White. White was well known for her photography of subjects in the military and medical professions, and she later concentrated on images of New Zealand landscapes and society. Her featured photographs include images from the Auckland Volunteer Camp during the 1890s.

Volunteers and Militia



ON DISPLAY FROM MAY THROUGH NOVEMBER

Auckland Museum Institute

Friends of Auckland War Memorial Museum (the Auckland Museum Institute), is both a membership organisation and learned society, publicising the Museum and supporting it in many ways by raising funds, arranging lectures, directing field trips, encouraging research and hosting social occasions.

As the Auckland branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand, the Auckland Museum Institute dates back to 1867 and has been proudly promoting the appreciation and popularisation of science, literature and history ever since.

Institute events

For more information on these events or for bookings, contact the Institute's administrator on 09 309 0443 ext 883.

Sunday 17 March

Field trip to North Head Tunnels. A guided tour of these historic maritime fortifications led by the Department of Conservation's David Veart. 10am, gold coin donation appreciated.

Sunday 24 March

As part of the Pacific Origins Living Treasures Day, Institute member and University of Auckland lecturer, Dr Mere Roberts, will give a floor talk on Pacific navigation. In the Maori Natural History Gallery.

Thursday 28 March

Ophthalmologist, Dr Harold Coop, will present "The colourful drama inside the eye: laser treatment for diabetic retinal disease", a seminar on preventing blindness in diabetes. Dr Coop will illustrate his talk with slides. 7.30pm at Auckland Museum.

Thursday 11 April

A Tale of two Thomas's. Auckland Museum's entomology curator, John Early, will discuss two colourful collectors from the Museum's history, Thomas Cheeseman

and Thomas Broun. A selection from Broun's beetle collection will also be on display as part of a joint meeting with the Entomological Society. 7.30pm at Auckland Museum.

Saturday 20 April

Galileo in the Museum. In association with The University of Auckland, the Institute celebrates Galileo, the world's first physicist, with hands-on experiments for budding scientists. 3pm at Auckland Museum. Suitable for ages 10 and over.

Thursday 9 May

Applied arts curator Louis Le Vaillant, will discuss his attendance at a Korea Foundation workshop on the history of Korean ceramics, and collections on-loan from the National Museum of Korea. 2pm at Auckland Museum.

Thursday 23 May

A Reign of Terrorism. Dr Paul Buchanan, political scientist from The University of Auckland, will discuss the terrorism phenomenon that is presently impacting on all our lives. 7.30pm at Auckland Museum.

Become an Institute member

Please send your payment and membership details to:
The Administrator, Auckland Museum Institute,
Private Bag 92018, Auckland

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Credit card type: _____ Exp date: ____/____

Cardholder name: _____

Credit card no:

Cheque enclosed: Yes No

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS (please tick)

| | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|
| Individual | \$45 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Museum volunteer | \$25 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Senior / superannuitant / student with ID | \$36 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint membership — two adults at one address | \$50 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Family — two adults and two children | \$80 per year; \$15 each additional child | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maori tribal groups | Details on application | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Life | \$1500 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

THE FILM ARCHIVE

High School • High Terrace • Museum • The New Zealand Film Archive

Time in motion April will see the recommencement of the Museum's winter film series, *Time in Motion*. Curated by the New Zealand Film Archive and hosted by the Museum on the last Sunday of every month from May until September, *Time in Motion* provides a rare glimpse of New Zealand history on film.

The programmes screen at 3pm in the APEC Room and commence on Anzac Day with *Lest we Forget*. Other programmes in the series include Auckland History, Fashion, Sport, Music, and Auckland: City of Sails. Silent films will be accompanied by pianist Tama Karena.

What's up on the hill

March

Sunday 10 March

Living Treasures Day — Body Art

A day of events based around the body beautiful and *Vodafone Body Art*. Highlights include body painting demonstrations by the School of Film and Television Make-up and by international make-up artist Caroline Zoe Viesnik, henna art, gallery tours, websites and an animal body art display.

Sunday 10 March

Music in the Museum

Yi Jin Junior Harp Ensemble, 3pm.

Sunday 24 March

Living Treasures Day — Pacific Origins

A day of themed events celebrating our Pacific culture and heritage. Highlights include a debut multi-media performance devised by Tame Iti in the Oceans Gallery and a reunion of the talented craftspeople and performers from the *Pacific Pathways* exhibition.

April

Sunday 7 April

Music in the Museum

A performance by the Philharmonic Society Orchestra, 3.30pm, APEC Room.

Sunday 14 April

Music in the Museum

Los Altos High School Main Street Singers perform at 3pm.

Thursday 25 April

Anzac Day

A series of commemorative events have been organised in recognition of Anzac Day. See page 5 for details.



May

Sunday 5 May

Music in the Museum

The Colla Vocce Ensemble perform operatic excerpts in the APEC Room at 3pm.

Sunday 19 May

Living Treasures Day — Korean Culture

This themed day will introduce aspects of the Korean collection on-loan from the National Museum of Korea and on display in the Asian Gallery. Highlights of the day include live performances as well as a special gallery tour by applied arts curator, Louis Le Vaillant.

Sunday 26 May

Time in Motion

Auckland of a bygone era is brought to life on film in this month's *Time in Motion* series. 3pm, APEC Room, with live piano accompaniment.

School holiday programme — From 29 March — 14 April 2002

Highlights

Wetasaurus appearances

Catch our Dinomite president Wetasaurus, he's part Weta, part Dinosaur! Wetasaurus will be visiting the Discovery Centre at 11am and 2.30pm on: Wednesday 3 April, Sunday 7 April, Wednesday 10 April and Sunday 14 April.

Friday 5 April

Kites

Fly high these holidays and make a kite.

Saturday 6 April

Paper making

Bring along your old Easter egg wrappers and make shimmering recycled paper.

Monday 8 April

Chimes

Make chimes and create a noise.

Tuesday 9 April

Toymaking

Bring a joke or riddle to this workshop.

Friday 12 April

(morning session only)

Ancient Egypt

Learn about the world of Ancient Egypt and screen print your own design. Bring a t-shirt to this workshop.

Saturday 13 April

Flax Fun

Learn about harakeke (flax) and do some simple weaving.

Workshops

Two sessions for each workshop: 10am — 12 noon and 1.30pm — 3.30pm. Bookings are essential. Call Kath on 306 7040 from 23 March to book. Children must be seven years old or over. \$6/\$5 for Dinomites. All workshops are located in the Education Centre.

Wednesday 3 April

Whales

Learn about the world of these amazing underwater creatures!

Spot Talks

11am and 2.30pm on the following days:

Thursday 4 April

Skeletons

Weird and Wonderful

Wednesday 10 April

Meet the Rats

Treasures and Tales

Thursday 11 April

Tarantulas

Weird and Wonderful

10 Minutes Activities

10am — 12 noon and 1.30pm — 3pm in the Discovery Centre, \$2 for materials.

Mondays and Thursdays

Penguin pen holders and ribbon dancers

Tuesdays and Fridays

Whale models and Mexican skeletons

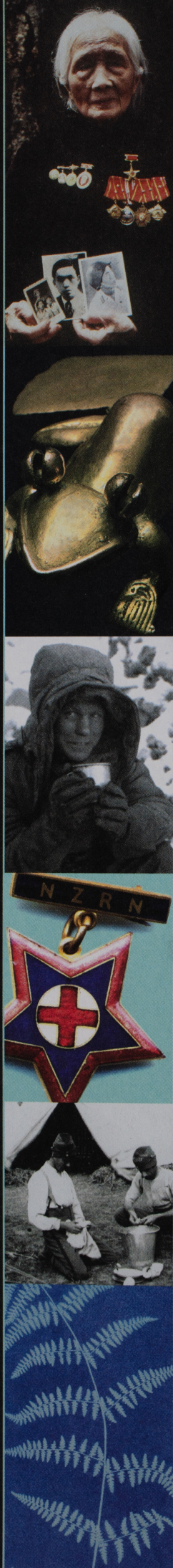
Wednesdays and Saturdays

Dolphin magnets and lei making

Sundays

Mardi Gras masks and badges

Exhibitions at a glance



Special Exhibition

Reporting the World

4 May – 21 July 2002

A collection of images by some of the world's finest photojournalists, brought together by renowned journalist and documentary maker, John Pilger. First exhibited at the Barbican in London, *Reporting the World* is a graphic and stirring portrait of humanity in conflict.

Decorative Arts Gallery West

More than a Mummy - 150 Years of Collecting

April – February 2003

An exhibition celebrating Auckland Museum's history of collecting. Special guest appearances by some of the Museum's most unusual and loved objects.

Pictorial Gallery

Ice and Fire – New Zealand and the Korean War

7 April through May 2002

A photographic exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, with support from the New Zealand government and the New Zealand Korean Veterans' Association.

Scars on the Heart

100 Years of Nursing

Until April 2002

An exhibition commemorating the centenary of registered and military nursing in New Zealand.

Volunteers and Militia

May – November 2002

This display, comprising uniforms, medals, memorabilia and photographs, focuses on the first fifty years of volunteers and militia in New Zealand.

Ethno - Open Storage Gallery

Ferns and Folk

Until August 2002

An exhibition celebrating the place of the fern in New Zealand's cultural, sporting and decorative arts history.