



Museum Quarterly is the official magazine of the Auckland War Memorial Museum

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Denis O'Connor inspecting sections of the "Names in Stone" marble at Trethewey Granite and Marble's yard in New Lynn

MUSEUM QUARTERLY

September 1999 Issue 79

Aucklanders Give \$1 Million to Auckland Museum

The Auckland War Memorial Museum has raised over \$1 million in its first direct-to-the-public fundraising appeal in 40 years.

The Museum's "Names in Stone" appeal, launched a year ago, asked Aucklanders to contribute the final sum needed for its much-needed \$43 million five-year restoration programme. The renovation of the museum which is producing entirely new galleries and displays will be completed at the end of this year.

Convenor of the appeal Mrs Lyndy Sainsbury said donations have been received from 86 Auckland families and individuals, a number for as

much as \$50,000. Every donor will be acknowledged on a stone plaque in the foyer of the Museum which will be unveiled in late October. The plaque is being produced by Auckland sculptor Denis O'Connor.

"Originally we were targeting 100 donors but we have achieved our \$1 million goal already which I think reflects the personal attachment and commitment Aucklanders feel towards the Museum and its ongoing success," said Mrs Sainsbury.

Mrs Sainsbury added, however, that donations towards Names in Stone are still being accepted until the middle of September.

She said most of the acknowledgements on the stone plaque will be in the names of individuals, families and family trusts, but some donors have contributed to memorialise a loved family member.

Museum Director Dr Rodney Wilson said that the new-look Museum has been strengthened to modern seismic standards and by the end of the year its interior will have been fully restored, building services replaced and a state-of-the-art climate control system installed. Early this year its new Natural History and Pacific Galleries opened and in the next few months they will be

followed by the new Maori galleries, the Maori Natural History gallery, and two new social history galleries, "Wild Child" and "City". Its "Scars on the Heart" permanent exhibition and Children's Discovery Centres were the first galleries to reopen.

Half of the \$43 million needed for the project has been met by ratepayers in the Auckland region through a levy in their local rates, while other major contributions have come from central Government and the ASB Charitable Trust.

Anyone interested in making a contribution towards the "Names in Stone" appeal should contact Dr Wilson.

The fundraising project has been an initiative of the Museum's "2000 Circle" of supporters headed by Patrons Sir Edmund Hillary and Sir David Attenborough.

Advocate of Elegance at the Auckland Museum

When talking about New Zealand's foremost designers of the 20th Century, you could call to mind Karen Walker, World or Liz Mitchell. But another name that has been synonymous with haute couture in this country since the 1950s is Bruce Papas.

"Bruce Papas represents the very best of the New Zealand fashion scene from the 1950s right through to the 1980s," said Angela Lassig, Assistant Curator of applied arts.

"The Museum is being proactive in documenting Auckland's fashion history and with that in mind we're gradually acquiring an extensive collection of Bruce Papas' work, including garments, sketches, samples and news clippings."

During his career, Papas designed a number of winning outfits for New Zealand Wool Board promotions and the Melbourne Cup, the gown worn by Queen Salote of Tonga at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, an entire wardrobe for a Hungarian countess, and wedding, evening and couture daywear garments for Australasia's socially active and fashion conscious women.

Fashion commentators of the day regarded him as "New Zealand's own Balenciaga".

At age 15 Papas, who is of Greek and Scots descent, began working for Flora Mackenzie, an established designer of that time, as the first indentured apprentice in the fashion trade in New Zealand.

During his time with Mackenzie, Papas studied pattern making, embroidery design, fabric draping and bespoke tailoring. Mackenzie was once quoted as saying she had not taught him anything, as his was a natural talent. He was with Mackenzie for five years and was then offered a position with the House of Schiaparelli in Paris. But his dream of working in a French fashion house was interrupted by his call up for National Service.

In 1958 Papas began working as head designer for Milne & Choyce, Queen Street's exclusive department store. During the 10 years he spent with the store, he produced two haute couture collections and two to three ready-to-wear collections every year.

To coincide with the seasonal fashion parades, Milne & Choyce displayed the Papas Collections in their windows. These became a "must-see" for the general public, which on several occasions resulted in Queen Street being closed to traffic as people blocked the road to see the displays.

His 30-year reign over New Zealand fashion was well under way when he won the inaugural Golden Shears competition, the forerunner of the Smokefree Fashion Awards, in 1961. His winning outfit was a "Golden Peacock" gown that was described by the judges as "faultless". A Belgian concert pianist who was visiting Auckland at the time, walked into the store the next day and bought it. Papas' theory for designing



"Golden Peacock", winner of the inaugural Golden Shears Competition, 1961.

clothes is simple: a woman should look beautiful at all times.

"I advocate simplicity with a difference. Full emphasis is placed on the fabric, line, shape and cut," he said. "Clothes should never be ugly, but should make the wearer look and feel elegant."

In 1965, Papas established his own salon on Queen Street, which quickly became a success.

"Bruce was noted for his innovative treatment of difficult fabrics such as leather, Guipure lace, chiffon, vicuna and cashmere," said Lassig. "He also played a role in encouraging some of New Zealand's best craftspeople into the fashion world. Weavers, potters,

woodworkers, silk screeners, milliners and furriers all worked specifically to his requirements."

Papas says this involvement led to his being asked to present a paper on "Handcraft in Fashion" to the University of Auckland summer school.

His minimalist sketches seen in his newspaper advertising were considered a first for New Zealand. The new style excited comment and set a standard which was to become much copied. Papas retired from the fashion world in the early 1980s.

The Museum is continuing to add to its collection and is keen to contact any of his clients who still have their Papas-designed garments.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

There's heaps happening at the Museum these holidays.

Leaf Rubbings

Mon Sept 20, Tues Sept 28
Make some great leaf rubbing artwork. Meet with Megan and learn to identify some native trees!

Aquarium in a Jar

Tues Sept 21, Wed Sept 29
Learn all about the wonderful creatures in the museum aquariums. Then make your own aquarium with Megan. You'll need to bring a large glass jar for this workshop.

Sea Shells

Wed Sept 22, Thurs Sept 30
Discover the secret world of the beach with Megan! Make some clever soap seashells that can live in your bathroom!

Dinosaurs

Thurs Sept 23
Travel back in time to the age of the dinosaurs! Make your own clay dinosaur model with Florence!

Ancient Egypt

Mon Sept 27
Print your own T-shirt in the designs of Ancient Egypt with Florence! Bring a plain, dark coloured T-shirt to this workshop.

Children must be aged between 7 and 12 years to

attend these workshops. Sessions will be held from 10am to 12pm and from 1pm to 3pm. Meet Megan or Florence in the foyer of the Museum at 10am or 1pm. Spaces are limited so bookings are essential. Call the Bookings Officer on 306 7040. Bookings are confirmed with payment.

Cost: \$6

\$5 for Dinomites
Send cheques to The School Bookings Officer Auckland Museum Private Bag 92018

VOLCANOES

Steam and gases, fire and ashes, booming, blasting, red-hot flashes!

Mondays

Volcanoes

Stick, colour, build and erupt a volcanic diorama!

Tuesdays

Lava Wands

Make a loopy leaping lava streamer!

Wednesdays

Badgetastic

Dozens of designs! They'll blow you away!

Thursdays

Paint a Pot

Decorate with explosive colour and designs!

Fridays

Volcanoes

Stick, colour, build and erupt a volcanic diorama!

Saturdays

Badgetastic

Dozens of designs! They'll blow you away!

Sundays

Paint a Pot

Decorate with explosive colour and designs!

Activities \$2. Dinomites half price.

Each activity takes about 10 minutes.

Sept 18th to Oct 3rd, 1999, 10am-12 noon & 2pm-4pm daily.

Children must be accompanied by an adult in the Discovery Centre.

FREE DINOMITES-ONLY WORKSHOP

Water Monkeys & other Cool Crustaceans!

Friday Oct 1

Make your own Water Monkey (Brine shrimp) habitat, create some cool crab necklaces and learn about some of New Zealand's very own crustaceans.

All equipment supplied (including live Water Monkey eggs!) Children must be aged between 7 and 12 years to attend this workshop. Sessions will be held from 10am to 12pm and from 1pm to 3pm. Meet Virgil in the foyer of the Museum at 10am or 1pm. Spaces are limited so bookings are essential.

Call the Bookings Officer on 306 7040.

From the Director

The APEC Leader's Retreat on 13 September, the first of the goals which mark the lead up to the finish of the Museum's five-year refurbishment works, is upon us. The exterior cleaning and restoration of the Museum building, and the fit-out of the new displays in the Maori Court are behind us.

Over the next three months, display fit out will be completed in the two New Zealand History galleries "Wildchild" and "City", in the Musical Instruments Gallery, in the East and West Maori Galleries and in the Maori Natural History Gallery. An exhibition of Applied Arts from the Ancient Civilizations and another featuring the development of a New Zealand style through vignette displays of furniture and items in other media will also be completed, and some additional feature lighting will be installed in the Logan Campbell Gallery.

Cleaning and remedial work has commenced in "Scars on the Heart", the Children's Discovery Centres and those new displays delivered early in the life of the Project to ensure that all galleries are fresh for Christmas.

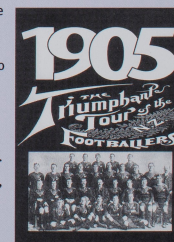
There is a palpable sense that the end of five years hard work, and disruption for the visitor, is nearing an end, and keen anticipation at the response of our visitors to the rich range of treasures, exhibitions and stories that will be revealed in December.

TL Rodney Wilson

A Treasure of Rugby Memorabilia

Last month saw the re-issue of one of the rare books from the Museum Library collection. Earlier this year Librarian Janice Chong pointed out the significance of the Museum's copy of *The Triumphant Tour of the New Zealand Footballers - 1905* to the Museum's publishing consultant, David Ling. Originally published in 1906 and signed by the author and team manager Mr George Dixon, the book is a complete record of that historic tour and is accompanied by over 200 photographs, drawings, press cartoons and period advertisements.

The 1905 tour is the most successful of all time and the team, the first to be called the All Blacks, has recently been named champion of the 1900-1909 decade in the Halberg Trust's Champion of the Century Awards.



**Auckland Museum
Institute
Programmes
September to
November 1999**

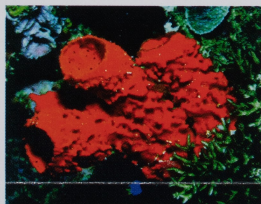
MEMBERS

The Institute would like to thank all the speakers and trip leaders over the past few months, especially the Museum curators and staff who generously gave of their time for the very successful "Museum after Dark" tour.

**LECTURES:
Wednesday 15th
September,
7.30pm**, at the Museum (entry via the main entrance).

The Wondrous Sponge: a rich resource for marine biotechnology
Dr Michelle Kelly, NIWA, Auckland.

If you think sponges are plants – well think again! They are complex, colourful, beautiful animals that are potentially a precious resource for domestic,



biomedical and industrial applications: deep sea New Zealand sponges may provide insights into the origins of many of our unusual sessile marine invertebrates. Sponges may one day be grown together with greenlip mussels. Dolphins use sponges to protect their noses when fossicking for food in the sand! Come and hear more truthful tales about these amazing creatures.

**Thursday 14th October,
7.30pm**, at the Museum (entry via the main entrance)
Unfamiliar Voices: Women's

Participation in Missionary Work in Nineteenth Century New Zealand
Dr Tanya Fitzgerald, School of Education, UNITEC, Auckland.

Missionary registers that are held in the Museum Library indicate that between 1804 and 1894, 317 women, were recruited as missionaries to New Zealand (20% of Church Missionary Society [CMS] missionaries). This level of recruitment of women was not experienced in other CMS mission fields.

Why were women in increasing numbers recruited by the CMS for its New Zealand mission in the nineteenth century? Who were these women and why were they recruited? What was unique about the New Zealand situation?

Tanya will attempt to answer these questions and will draw extensively on letters and diaries of CMS missionary women that are held in the Auckland Museum archives.

**Tuesday 9th November,
7.30pm**. Epsom Girls Grammar Theatre, entry off Silver Street, Epsom.

The 1999 Archey Lecture: The Search for the Real Earnest Rutherford.
Professor John Campbell, Department of Physics, Canterbury University. Rutherford is to the atom what Darwin is to evolution, Newton to mechanics, Faraday to electricity and Einstein to relativity. Curiously New Zealand can not give itself and the world a true account of its most



famous son. Now they can, through the (forthcoming) recent release of John Campbell's long awaited biography, *Rutherford – Scientist Supreme*. John, after a two-decade odyssey,

will part the web of mythology and tell of his search for the real Earnest Rutherford.

**Wednesday 17th November,
7.30pm**, at the Museum (entry via the main entrance)
A Gift of Books (Captain Sir Everard Home and his father) Wyn Beasley, Wellington. The Institute's accessions register for 1854 records a bequest of books from the library of Captain Sir James Everard Home Bt CB FRS RN, the recently deceased senior naval officer on the Australian station. The list includes six volumes on comparative anatomy, published by the benefactor's father, the first baronet, Sir Everard Home, a leading surgeon of his time, sergeant surgeon to the King, first president of the Royal College of Surgeons – yet a man of whom *The Lancet* could write 'always partial to the bottle, he became at last a regular sot'. This paper examines the careers of the two men and explains the circumstances of the writing – and the gift – of the books concerned.

**FIELD TRIPS:
Saturday 25th September,
9.00am start**
Glenbrook steel mill and iron sand deposit
Leader: Philip Bagshaw, BHP New Zealand.

The field trip will explore the fascinating process of extracting iron sand from fossil dune deposits and the processes required to make steel at the Glenbrook steel mill near Waiuku. Transport will be by carpooling. Leaving from the rear of the Museum at 9.00am. For south-Aucklanders another rendezvous will be arranged. If you are interested in coming contact details must be left with the Institute Administrator Byrdie Ayres 309 0443 X883 in case cancellation or postponement is required.

**Sunday 28th November,
9.00am start.**
Mahurangi – an historical & industrial archaeological journey
Leader: Gordon Ell
This field trip will take in the

rich history and industrial archaeology of the Mahurangi – Warkworth area. Sites visited will include those dealing with aspects of the kauri timber and cement industry as well as the river port and transportation. Transport will be by carpooling. Leaving from the rear of the Museum at 9.00am. North Shore residents can meet at 9.20am for further carpooling at the BP petrol station just before the Coatesville turnoff / SH1 intersection at the top of Albany Hill. If you are interested in coming contact details must be left with the Institute Administrator Byrdie Ayres 309 0443 X883 in case cancellation or postponement is required.

**Wine Auction: 27th October,
7.30–9.30pm** at the Museum in the Main foyer (entry via the main entrance). Drinks and nibbles beforehand. **FURTHER DONATIONS OF WINE ARE NEEDED TO MAKE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE!** If you can't drop a bottle off to the Institute Administrator Byrdie Ayres we will collect it! Proceeds to raise funds for the newly established Research Fund which aims to support scholarly research, particularly that connected with the Museum's collections.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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