



NEWS

Auckland Institute and Museum
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ASB Bank Grant

ASB Bank has made a grant of \$8,000 in support of the major development work in the Maori Carving Store. Thanks to this grant, and to other support from the Lottery Board, this project is almost complete. The Museum now has some of the finest facilities in any New Zealand Museum for the storage and study of its priceless collection of Maori carvings.

There was some negative comment in the November **Metro** about the deferral of a grant to the Museum by ASB Bank earlier in the year. Museum Director Stuart Park was pleased to be able to set the record straight, and to point out ASB Bank's long-standing generosity to the Museum, in a subsequent issue of the magazine.

We're Very Popular

The Museum is the most popular place in Auckland. The **Tourism Baseline Monitor** prepared by the Auckland Regional Authority shows that in the most popular attraction category, more than ten percent of all the overseas tourists in their sample visited the Museum, went shopping or ate in a restaurant while in Auckland. Given there are many shops and restaurants and only one Museum, that makes us by far the most popular single destination for overseas tourists. Other attractions like the zoo, harbour cruises or scenic drives rated less than 2.5 per cent.

In 1987, 982,230 people visited Auckland Museum. That is an increase of over 11 percent on 1986, when we

had 882,360 visitors. Not all of those visitors were from overseas of course — we'd be failing badly if we were catering only to overseas people. But it's good to know that we do make such a strong contribution to the tourism industry in Auckland, and thus help to attract the all important tourist dollar to this region.



New Curator of Applied Arts

Auckland Museum has appointed Justine Olsen as head of the Department of Applied Arts at Auckland Museum.

As Curator, Justine will be responsible to the Director of the Museum for the total operation of the Department of Applied Arts. This includes every aspect of the Department's work in the curation, storage, maintenance, recording and development of the applied arts collections, research into those collections and their interpretation to both the general and specialist audiences of the Museum.

Ms Olsen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History from the University of Canterbury, and has

post-graduate qualifications in 19th and 20th century decorative arts from Sotheby's in London. Before coming to work at Auckland Museum, Ms Olsen had worked for the New Zealand Historic Places Trust in Wellington and for Sotheby's in London. Justine has a strong interest in the decorative arts of New Zealand and Europe and has initiated the compilation of an index of New Zealand craftspeople of the last 150 years, which is currently in preparation. Her interests are not only historical, however, since she has also been closely involved in developing the Museum's collections of contemporary applied arts.

"The position attracted applications

from throughout New Zealand and from Australia," said Museum Director Stuart Park. "In the face of this wide interest, it is especially pleasing to be able to promote a member of our own staff to a position of such responsibility".

Ms Olsen has been the Acting Curator of Applied Arts at the Museum during the absence through illness of the former curator. Previously she had been the Assistant Curator, since her appointment to Auckland Museum in 1986. The Museum has advertised the now vacant Assistant Curator's position, and we hope to make an appointment soon. We'll keep you informed in our next issue.

Community Education Officer

Mrs Katrina Stamp has been appointed to the new position of Community Education Officer at Auckland Museum.

Mrs Stamp holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Diploma of Criminology from the University of Auckland, and a Diploma of Teaching. After qualifying, she taught at Orakei School for five years, and last year was appointed as one of the Auckland Education Board Education Officers at Auckland Museum. She has also undertaken studies in museum education at the University of Massachusetts and the Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

Following the retirement of John Wadham from the position of Extension Officer, the opportunity was taken to review the Museum's extension activities, and reshape that job somewhat to create the position of Community Education Officer. The new position will involve Mrs Stamp in almost every aspect of the museum's educational work, the main exception being the formal educational activities undertaken by school classes, which will continue to be the responsibility of Education Board teachers working at the Museum.

Mrs Stamp will be involved in the planning and formulation of Museum wide educational philosophy, policy and objectives. Adult education, programmes for the general public and for Members, children's leisure activities, programmes for groups with special needs, and the volunteer guide scheme will all fall within her responsibilities.

The Museum's extension service activities to outlying areas of the province will be reviewed to assess whether the existing service, which has been essentially unmodified from

its beginnings in 1955, still meets present day needs. Particularly in the light of the greatly increased number of provincial and local museums now in existence, it seems likely that a revised form of service should be offered to provincial areas.

Mrs Stamp took up her duties in early March. The vacancy left by her departure from the Museum Education Service is currently being advertised by the Education Board.

Rutherford Lecture

Every three years New Zealand the Rutherford Lecturer of the Royal Society in Great Britain visits New Zealand to give the Rutherford Lectures. These are arranged by the Royal Society of New Zealand, and as the Auckland branch of the **RSNZ** we are pleased to be able to host the 1988 Rutherford Lecture. This year's Rutherford Lecturer is a geophysicist, Professor D.P. McKenzie, and his lecture is entitled "Mantle Convection and the Tectonics of Oceans and Continents".

The lecture will be held on Wednesday 23rd March at 8pm in the Museum Auditorium (entry by the West Door).

The Institute Committee and our new Community Education Officer are currently working on the remainder of the lecture Syllabus for 1988 — we will keep you advised of the programme they arrive at.



Logan Campbell Grant

We referred in the last **News** to the continuing generosity towards the Museum of the Logan Campbell Residuary Estate. There is no direct connection, but it is pleasing to be able to record in this issue the Museum's gratitude for a further grant from the Estate. The Trustees have made a grant of \$7000 to assist the Museum with its project to develop two display galleries in the World War One Hall of Memories. These displays have been rather neglected, and we plan to provide new displays drawing on Museum Library resources, dealing with the campaigns of New Zealanders at Gallipoli and in France. For that reason, we are delighted to receive this support from the Logan Campbell Estate.

The G

A number of Botanical Society members have collected wild introduced plants from the Waitakere Forest Herbarium. These fine specimens have been incorporated into the collection by Jack Macdonald, Technician. The past couple of years have been difficult and no specimens have accrued, and the "attacked" by Anthony Wright.

Jack's specimens were the rush family. Residuary keys to identify the **Flora of New Zealand** arrived at the Museum — a Zealand which had not been before in New Zealand. **Flora** states that the material was from a vehicle army camp at Orford's proximity to South Africa. She searched for material in our collection with Jack's specimens to duplicate what was found at Edgar at DSL, Lincoln. She identified the specimen with the Botany Department.

Now herbaria collections of local ones, so needed. Jack collected in the Department of the Museum expedition Stream to attract population at collections.

Working from specimen, Jack Wright were identified with **silvery leaved** spinifex at the found of that. Anthony looked for **bright green** rocks in the stone walking past. elusive *Juncus*. Fortunately, they are so as well as the herbarium one collected and distributed to Zealand, Australia, North and South with whom we have. Naturally enough, the latest collection of the **fresh** leaves were workers.

Hei Tiki Exhibition at Auckland Museum

Hei tiki made of jade are the most highly prized Maori ornaments. In a fascinating display just opened at the Auckland Museum, over 200 hei tiki are on show, presenting almost every tiki in the Museum's collections.

Hei tiki are passed down through the generations as family heirlooms. They may be worn by both men and women for special occasions, especially on the marae in front of the meeting house. Many tiki have their own personal names and are remembered in tribal songs and history. Most of the mana or prestige of the hei tiki derives from its contact with those great ancestors who have worn it in the past.

Tiki was the first man created by the

god Tane, so carvings of human figures in any material are called "tiki". "Hei" conveys the idea of a neck pendant, and thus "hei tiki" are neck pendants in the form of a human being.

When a Maori artist shaped a hei tiki, he was strongly influenced by the local woodcarving style that he knew best. The exhibition groups the tiki according to their place of origin, so that visitors can appreciate some of the regional differences in style or form. However, because hei tiki were exchanged and transported widely about the country, definite regional styles are difficult to define.

Hei Tiki is open now during Museum hours, daily from 10 am to 5 pm every day of the week. Admission is free.



Puti Rere and Hinemoa Harrison



Puti Rere demonstrating to Museum visitors

Photographer: Maureen Lander

Te Aho Tapu

Some of the country's leading experts in the weaving of Maori cloaks demonstrated their art at Auckland Museum in February.

The demonstrations were given to mark the closing of the highly popular exhibition **Te Aho Tapu: The Sacred Thread, which the Museum has been presenting with the support of New Zealand Steel Limited.**

This was a rare opportunity for those interested in the preparation of the muka fibre and the weaving techniques to see contemporary Maori weavers at work. Some of the best known cloak makers in the country came to Auckland to take part. The Museum is very grateful to them for their interest and support, and for the enthusiasm they showed in demonstrating their art, both in February and during the earlier demonstrations in July and August

last year. We are also grateful to those members who staffed the book table adjacent to the demonstrations.

The exhibition **Te Aho Tapu** was originally mounted to complement the Auckland showing of **Te Maori**. It continued until the end of February to allow Museum visitors the chance to see such a magnificent range of traditional Maori textiles. Because of their fragility and sensitivity to light, the cloaks in the exhibition will now be placed away in storage in the Museum, to allow them to recover from the stresses of the exhibition. They will of course continue to be available for study by weavers or other community groups or individuals who may need to have access to them.

Also ending its showing is the Agfa-sponsored exhibition **Whakaahua**. This photographic

exhibition is now being prepared for tour to museums and other venues throughout the country. To replace **Whakaahua**, the Museum has mounted the exhibition **Hei Tiki** mentioned elsewhere in this **News**.

The Museum now begins the process of completing its major redevelopment project in the Maori display galleries. In the eastern space where **Te Aho Tapu** has been shown, we will develop longer term exhibits, complementing **Nga Mahi** on the western side of the Museum. The displays will endeavour to portray the art and culture of the different tribal groups throughout New Zealand. Currently, the planning process is beginning with consultation being undertaken with Maori people from the many different tribal groups whose taonga will be included in the displays.

Museum

Two recent appointments to the Auckland Museum staff have been, or soon will be, elsewhere in the Museum. We wish her all the best.

Museums Liaison Officer, Catchpole has retired in the mid-1980s. Director of the Museum, Palmerston North, is sorry to see Julie, but we are delighted to be obtaining this information in time to wish her all the best.

Malacologist W. C. Nixon notified the Council that he will retire in the mid-1980s, taking his accumulated leave. V. C. Nixon, Museum staff since 1963, nearly 20 years of service. The Museum has a record in scientific malacology. He is the Museum's in this field established by his predecessor. We will be sorry to see him well both for and for his retirement.

Detailed arrangements for the replacement in Malacology Department, Cernohorsky's replacement in the Museum department members informed.

Once again the Museum is pleased to have a number of students working for us. Under the Student Programme. The people always make a contribution to the Museum department and again we are pleased to have had a fine summer, employed under the Student Programme. The people always make a contribution to the Museum department and again we are pleased to have had a fine summer, employed under the Student Programme. The people always make a contribution to the Museum department and again we are pleased to have had a fine summer, employed under the Student Programme.

Two members of the staff have taken maternity leave. Our congratulations to the Display Technician and Cleaner Maureen.

We have three new attendant staff. Nehana joined the staff. We have three new attendant staff. Nehana joined the staff. We have three new attendant staff. Nehana joined the staff.

Museum Staff

Two recent appointments to the Museum staff are mentioned elsewhere in this issue, but there have been, or soon will be, a number of other staff changes and activities.

Museums Liaison Officer Julie Catchpole has been appointed as Director of the Manawatu Art Gallery in Palmerston North, and she left us at the beginning of March. We are very sorry to see Julie leave after a relatively short time as Liaison Officer, but we are delighted at her success in obtaining this important position, and wish her all the best in her new job.

Malacologist Walter Cernohorsky has notified the Council of his intention to retire in the middle of next year, after taking his accumulated and long service leave. Walter has been on the Museum staff since 1969, and in his nearly 20 years of service at the Museum has achieved a distinguished record in scientific publication in malacology. He has further developed the Museum's international reputation in this field established by his predecessor the late Dr Powell. We will be sorry to see Walter go, but wish him well both for his impending leave and for his retirement next year.

Detailed arrangements for the Malacology Department in Walter Cernohorsky's absence and for his replacement in 1989 have not yet been arrived at, but we will keep members informed on this.

Once again the Museum has been pleased to have the services of a number of student assistants over the summer, employed with a subsidy under the Student Job Search Programme. These talented young people always make a major contribution to the work of the various Museum departments they work in, and again we are very pleased to have had a fine group of students working for us. Helen Blythe, Fleur Nixon and Joanne Yates have been working in the Library, Elizabeth Callaghan in Ethnology, Sandra Condon in Geology, Mary Gardner in Entomology, Ann Hume in Botany, Patrick Stodart in Archaeology, and Andrew and Phillip Coop in the **FutureSight** Exhibition.

Two members of staff will be taking maternity leave later in the year. Our congratulations are extended to Display Technician Virginia Bennett and Cleaner Maria Suafa.

We have three new members of our attendant staff. Peter Kite and Eruera Nehana joined us in October, which threw them immediately into the midst of the hurly burly of **The Firth Dinosaurs**. However, they seem to have survived that experience, and have settled in well with our other staff.

Cindy Pocock joins us as only our second woman attendant, after a number of years working on the cleaning staff. Jonathan Graves has taken over the Maintenance position left by the resignation of Paul O'Leary, and his brother Robert has joined the staff to assist Jonathan and undertake his cleaning responsibilities.

Curator of Display Richard Wolfe has received an award under the States

International Visitor Award Programme for 1988. Richard is currently spending a month in the United States examining museums and similar institutions, with an emphasis on both ethnographic and natural history display. The Museum Council has been pleased to be able to grant Richard leave to take up this award, and extended its congratulations to him.



from left: Peter Kite, Cindy Pocock, Eruera Nehana

Special Exhibitions

As Members will know, Auckland Museum has a very active programme of Special Exhibitions, to augment its more permanent display activities. With this issue of the **News** we enclose a copy of the Exhibition Calendar for the first half of the year — this year there are so many special exhibitions we have divided the Calendar in two — you'll be sent the second half of the programme later in the year. As you can see, although we are taking a pause for the moment from major international shows like **The Firth Dinosaurs** and **FutureSight**, there are plenty of attractions coming up at the Museum. We hope you enjoy them.

Members may also like to be advised that the Continuing Education Department of the University of Auckland have arranged a special series of lectures and exhibition visits to coincide with four major New Zealand craft exhibitions at Auckland Museum during the year. Tutor Dugald Page will lecture on the four exhibitions, and conduct guided visits

to them. Further details from Continuing Education, or enrolment forms are available from the Museum Library.

**AUCKLAND MUSEUM SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS
JANUARY - JULY 1988**

<p>FUTURE SIGHT: Innovations in Art Monography A series of monographs from the Museum of Ethnology, Auckland, about the art of the Pacific, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>	<p>SHARING OUR HERITAGE A series of lectures and exhibitions about the many ethnic groups that we part of our heritage. Auckland.</p>
<p>THE FIRTH A series of lectures and exhibitions about the Firth of Thames, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>	<p>NOA HUA O TE IWI The Wills of the People A series of lectures and exhibitions about the Wills of the People, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>
<p>AUCKLAND'S MARITIME HERITAGE A series of lectures and exhibitions about the maritime heritage of Auckland, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>	<p>INVITED WEAVERS '88 A series of lectures and exhibitions about the work of invited weavers, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>
<p>IMAGES OF A FROZEN CONTINENT Alan Campbell's Antarctica A series of lectures and exhibitions about the work of Alan Campbell, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>	<p>JAPAN WEEK A series of lectures and exhibitions about the work of Japan Week, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>
<p>1988 FLETCHER CHALLENGE POTTERY AWARD A series of lectures and exhibitions about the work of the Fletcher Challenge Pottery Award, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>	<p>DREAMS AND SCHEMES A series of lectures and exhibitions about the work of Dreams and Schemes, including the work of the late Dr Powell.</p>

The Great Juncus Hunt

A number of years ago the Auckland Botanical Society undertook a project to collect voucher specimens of all the wild introduced plants of the Waitakere Ranges for the Museum Herbarium. Several hundreds of very fine specimens have now been incorporated, many of them collected by Jack Mackinder who is now Botany Technician at the Museum. Over the past couple of years, a box full of difficult and problem specimens had accrued, and these were finally "attacked" by Museum Botanist Anthony Wright earlier this year.

Jack's specimens, a leafy member of the rush family, proved to be of great interest. Resorting to the scientific keys to identification of the rushes in the **Flora of New Zealand**, Anthony arrived at the name *Juncus dregeanus* — a Zealand non-native species which had only been collected once before in New Zealand, in 1945. As the **Flora** states "the single collection was from a vehicle park at a wartime U.S. army camp on the late Countess of Orford's property, Manurewa. This South African species should be searched for about Auckland". With no material in our herbarium to compare with Jack's specimen, a small duplicate was sent to Dr Elizabeth Edgar at DSIR's Botany Division, Lincoln. She confirmed the identification and compared the specimen with the 1945 example in the Botany Division herbarium.

Now herbaria like to have good collections of plants, particularly our local ones, so more material was needed. Jack's specimen was collected in 1984, so the Botany Department decided to mount a Museum expedition up the Whatipu Stream to attempt to relocate the population and make further collections.

Working from the herbarium specimen, Jack and Botanist Anthony Wright were looking for grassy clumps with **silvery** leaves, somewhat like spinifex at the beach. Nothing was found of that hue, so after a while Anthony looked more closely at some **bright green** tufts of leafy rush among rocks in the streambed they had been walking past. They turned out to be the elusive *Juncus dregeanus*! Fortunately, the plant was abundant, so as well as specimens for our own herbarium our intrepid *Juncus* hunters collected another 20 samples for distribution to other herbaria in New Zealand, Australia, around the Pacific, North and South America and Europe with whom we exchange specimens. Naturally enough, the labels on the latest collection describe the colour of the **fresh** leaves to assist future workers.



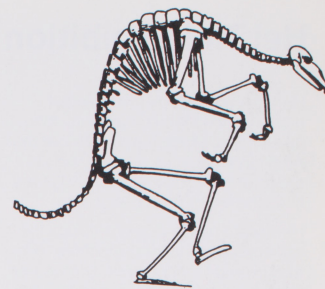
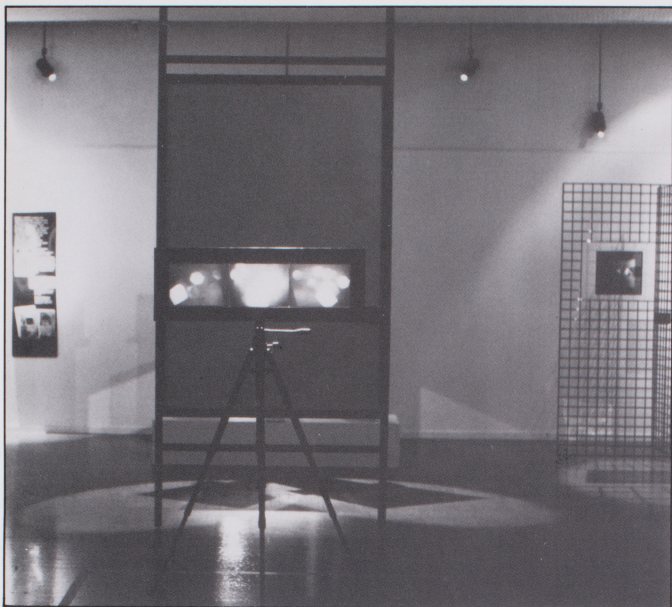
Library Closure

Once again, the Museum Library was closed for its annual period of a fortnight at the beginning of December. Librarian Ian Thwaites reports that a great deal of useful work was able to be undertaken during this period.

Much prior planning was carried out to make the closure worthwhile. The complete Official Publications stack was resited in the Storage room, thus freeing the Picture room and making it available purely for pictorial research and shelving. The history section of the New Zealand book sequence was relocated to make more room,

creating space which we hope will last two to three years.

Large numbers of storage books and periodicals were boxed and transported to our temporary storage area at National Archives. All duplicate storage books have now been arranged and assessed and some disposal to other libraries has been made. Gordon Maitland supervised a further assault on the cataloguing backlog in the photograph collection. All the Library staff, our student assistants and our volunteers worked hard to help us achieve a great deal during the closure.



The Firth Dinosaurs

The Museum's most successful international exhibition ever held concluded its showing at the Museum on January 6th. "The Firth Dinosaurs" attracted 130,000 paying visitors, doubling the previous attendance record for such an exhibition. The benefits to the Museum from such a successful exhibition are considerable. There are the obvious financial benefits, which will assist the Museum in undertaking projects it might not otherwise have been able to do. There are also the less tangible aspects, such as the high media and public profile; the good relationships forged with our sponsors, as well as with other sectors of the business community who availed themselves of the opportunity to hold corporate evenings with the dinosaurs; the benefits to Museum Council, staff and volunteers from being associated with such a successful event; and the close association developed with our counterparts at the Museum of Victoria, which seems likely to have ongoing benefits for Auckland Museum.

In noting the success of the exhibition, we must record our appreciation of the wide support the Museum received, which made the exhibition possible. The Museum of Victoria, its Director, Council and staff; our sponsors, Firth Concrete Products, Oceanbridge Freight and QANTAS Airways and many members of their staff and consultants; Auckland University, DSIR and other scientists; Auckland City Council's parks and recreation staff; media and advertising people; and finally many Auckland Museum Council members, staff members and volunteers; all these people deserve our grateful thanks.

Holograms Attract Attention

The first major exhibition of holographic art to be seen in New Zealand attracted a lot of interest from visitors to Auckland Museum in January and February. Over 19,000 people viewed the exhibition during its Auckland showing.

FutureSight: innovations in art holography was an international exhibition presenting work by some of the world's leading holographic artists. It was curated by the Museum of Holography in New York, and the more than thirty works in the exhibition came from the Museum of Holography's permanent collection. **FutureSight** was brought to New Zealand by the Electricity Corporation of New Zealand to celebrate the centenary of public electricity supply in this country. It is now on show in Wellington as part of the International Festival of Art, and will later be seen in Christchurch and Dunedin.

Holograms are three dimensional images created by laser light. Even when viewed in normal light conditions they present to the viewer a

remarkable three dimensional view of the subject.

One of the exhibits which attracted a great deal of attention was a hologram of a microscope. The hologram presented remarkably vivid views of a standard laboratory microscope, which appeared to project itself out from the two dimensional holographic plate. What was more fascinating, however, was that the viewer could actually look down the eyepiece of this microscope, and see a highly magnified computer chip through the "It is hard to believe that what you are seeing is not actually there — we had many people moving their hands in empty space, trying to touch the image they could see" said Museum Director Stuart Park. "Many people were disappointed with the three dimensional television they had seen in the recent gorilla movie — when they came to the Museum they could see what real three dimensional pictures look like. There was even a moving hologram, whose subject blew the viewer a kiss and winked!".

Auckland War Memorial Museum was erected in the Auckland Domain in 1929 and extended in 1960 as the Memorial to those from Auckland Province who died in two World Wars. It is administered by the Auckland Institute and Museum, whose origins go back to the first Auckland Museum of 1852. **Auckland Museum News** is issued free to members of the Institute and Museum, a group of friends and supporters of the Museum.

