

MUSEUM

JUNE
JULY
AUGUST

2002

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

ISSUE 91



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.akmuseum.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 is shaping up to be a big year for Auckland War Memorial Museum.

Last month, the Prime Minister announced a grant of \$26.5 million towards construction of a domed atrium within the Museum's southern courtyard. This grant, fittingly awarded in the Museum's 150th birthday year, funds half of the project's total cost and will enable the safe onsite storage of the Museum's collections, the provision of education and exhibition space and vastly improved visitor amenities.

Scheduled to begin at the end of this year, construction is anticipated to be complete by Christmas 2004.

In announcing the Museum's funding, the Prime Minister described Auckland Museum as a repository for the country's finest and most valuable collections.

Currently on display at the Museum in our birthday exhibition, are just a few of these significant objects. *More than a Mummy - 150 Years of Collecting*, celebrates this Museum's history of collecting, telling tall tales of adventure, science and artistry. It is also fitting, that the sponsors of this show should be NZI, a company with its own grand history whose association with this Museum stretches back to the 1920's, when as underwriters of the war memorial fundraising campaign, they were instrumental in the construction of this fine heritage building. It is rewarding, that both Government and NZI should be involved yet again in support of this Museum, in the year of our 150th anniversary.

Through the generosity of both public and corporate sponsors, Auckland Museum has a bright future ahead of it.

Dr T.L. Rodney Wilson



Museum announces special awards

This June, the Museum's Trust Board conferred honorary status to eight individuals for their extraordinary contributions to the Museum.

For exemplary scholarship relevant to the Museum's collections, Dr Michael King, Jeremy Salmond, Dr Ranginui Walker and Prof John Morton receive Fellowship awards. For achievement in the service of the Museum's public and community roles, Dr Lindo Ferguson and Rev. Dr. Takutai Wikiriwhi receive Companion awards. Marking the achievements of former staff, Mick Pendergrast and Katrina Stamp receive the award of Associate Emeritus. Director Rodney Wilson says: "The awards are a measure of the esteem the Museum holds for these individuals and their work."

news in brief

Te Ara journal relaunched

Museums Aotearoa, the national industry organisation for museums, has relaunched its professional publication *Te Ara*, providing news and support for museums in New Zealand, after an absence of six years. For more information contact: jlane@museums-aotearoa.org.nz

Weird and Wonderful closure

Weird and Wonderful, one of the Museum's two Discovery Centres, will be closed for refurbishment between 31 May and 21 October of this year. For more information contact the Centre on 306 7070 ext 809.

Win a pamper hamper from The Store

New at The Museum Store is a delicious aromatherapy range. *Linden Leaves* products range from bath salts, shower gels and moisturising lotions to foot products and oils for the face and body. Be in the draw to win a *Linden Leaves* gift pack, by filling out this entry form and returning it to the *Linden Leaves Competition*, Marketing Department, Auckland Museum, Freepost 65043, Private Bag 92018, Auckland.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

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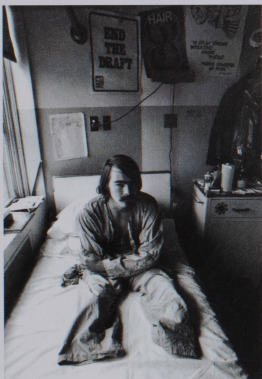
We may contact you from time to time with other Museum offers and updates. If you do not wish to receive this information, please tick this box.

This promotion is also available in The Museum Store.



REPORTING THE WORLD: JOHN PILGER'S GREAT EYEWITNESS PHOTOGRAPHERS

A MAJOR EXHIBITION CURATED BY RENOWNED



Top: East Timor, Steve Cox, 1991. An East Timorese boy watches Indonesian troops pass through the streets of Dili.

Above: Vietnam Vet, Ken Regan, 1975. Pilger and photographer Ken Regan worked together on the stories of Vietnam vets. This image, of an unknown veteran, reveals the loss of American innocence.

Reporting the World spans key world events over the last quarter of the twentieth century, exploring the close association between John Pilger and some of the world's finest photojournalists.

Throughout his career, Pilger has covered significant international stories, from the assassination of Bobby Kennedy, to the killing fields of Cambodia and East Timor's struggle for independence. These stories, told by graphic images of war, poverty, racial intolerance and political violence, are profiled in the show and celebrate the very best in documentary photography and investigative journalism.

Black and white and colour prints are accompanied by original newspaper spreads with supporting texts by Pilger.

Pilger, an Australian by birth, has had a distinguished media career. A staff reporter, feature writer and chief foreign correspondent with the Daily Mirror for over 20 years, Pilger has also contributed to The Guardian, New Statesman, and the BBC. He has been a war correspondent, documentary filmmaker, author and socio-political commentator. Twice awarded Britain's Journalist of the Year, Pilger has also been International Reporter of the Year, and a winner of the United Nations Association Media Peace Prize.

"This exhibition is the realisation of a fond ambition of mine," says Pilger. "Almost from the day I went on the road as a newspaper correspondent, my best work has been in harness, and comradeship, with some of the great photographers of my time."



JOURNALIST JOHN PILGER

Adults \$10 Concessions \$7.50

Photographers in the show include Philip Jones Griffiths, famous for his images of the impact of war on the Vietnamese people, and Ken Regan who worked with Pilger covering Black American civil rights and the legacy of war on American Vietnam vets.

Geographical areas covered in the show include Cambodia, Burma, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Nicaragua and El Salvador, East Timor, Africa, Europe and Iraq.

Organised and toured by the Barbican in London and supported by the British Council, Reporting the World is a graphic portrait of humanity in conflict.

Pilger double deal

Bring this coupon with you and receive a companion adult ticket half price. Your coupon will then go into a draw to win a copy of the exhibition catalogues as well as two of John Pilger's publications: *The New Rulers of the World* and *A Secret Country*.

Name: _____

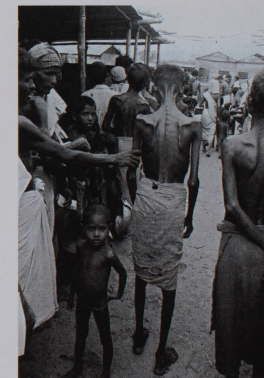
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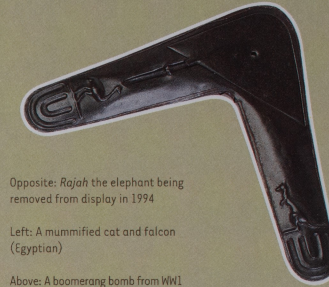


Top: Nicaragua, Susan Meiselas, 1983. The Pope in the shadow of Sandinista president, Daniel Ortega.

Above: Bangladesh, Eric Piper, 1974. Flood victims flee to food stations in one of the world's poorest countries, Bangladesh.

On display until 21 July 2002





Opposite: *Rajah* the elephant being removed from display in 1994

Left: A mummified cat and falcon (Egyptian)

Above: A boomerang bomb from WWI

Below: Timeline that charts the history of New Zealand

More than a mummy

150 YEARS OF COLLECTING

More than a Mummy – 150 Years of Collecting opened on 27 April, marking the start of a year of celebratory events for Auckland Museum's 150th birthday. The show includes significant objects that reflect the Museum's history of collecting.

MORE THAN A MUMMY IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY NZI
AND IS ON DISPLAY UNTIL 31 JANUARY 2003



Visitors can follow a timeline that charts the history of New Zealand from the arrival of the Maori to the naming of the kiwifruit in 1959 and the All Blacks winning their first rugby World Cup in 1987.

The show features some of the Museum's favourite and rarely seen treasures and is representative of the breadth of the Museum's collections, from the antique to the contemporary. Unusual objects are also uncovered, from the infamous 'gold frog' (as well as the replica for visitors to spot the difference) to William Colenso's Giant Weta, the oldest native New Zealand insect in the Museum, first collected in 1838.

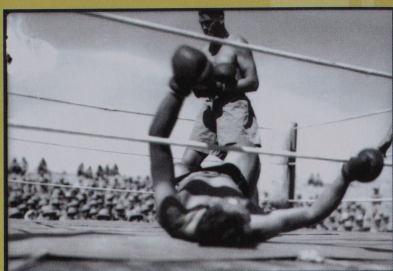
Extracts from historic staff diaries, personal letters, reminiscences and articles about the Museum dating back to 1852, read by broadcaster Kim Hill, can be heard in the exhibition, including the story of *Rajah*, the young bull elephant brought to Auckland in 1930 and considered one of the biggest taxidermy jobs ever undertaken in New Zealand.

A three-dimensional animated projection of the Museum's Egyptian mummy is on display with 3-D glasses on-hand for mummy fans.

More than a Mummy – 150 Years of Collecting is supported by NZI and is the first exhibition in the Museum's birthday calendar. The forthcoming *Hillary Exhibition*, opening in October, will illuminate the life and achievements of Sir Edmund Hillary, from his ascent of Mount Everest to his work with the Sherpa people of Nepal.



Private Paton's Photos:



NORTH AFRICA 1941-42 UNTIL 4 AUGUST 2002

Private Paton's Photos is the first in a series of special exhibitions curated in association with the New Zealand Herald.

This extraordinary photographic collection is a small fragment of the many images taken by Harold Paton during the Second World War, and provides a glimpse into the everyday lives of Kiwi soldiers in North Africa.

A world away from his pre-war position as photographic cadet at the Auckland Star, Harold Paton's first military assignment was to photograph New Zealand Prime Minister Peter Fraser on a visit to Maadi Camp in Egypt. He went on to photograph his peers from the 24th Infantry Battalion, and the bleak landscape in which they were posted, throughout the desert campaign. His candid shots show soldiers at

work and at play, from endless parades, to the welcome respite of the battalion boxing championships.

As the official 2NZEF war photographer, Paton's images were published in magazines and newspapers globally; his images captured the imagination of viewers as they revealed the personalities behind the uniforms.

Three more Herald shows are planned for the year covering themes ranging from 'On the Water' profiling Aucklanders' love of the harbour, to the cartoons of Herald artist Gordon Minhinnick, opening in July.



Pioneers of New Zealand Wine

Marking the publication of Dick Scott's book of the same name, *Pioneers of New Zealand Wine* profiles the history of winemaking in New Zealand.



Featuring photography by Marti Friedlander, this exhibition will showcase many objects from the Museum's collections, including the first wine press used in New Zealand and a selection of wine bottles, equipment, placards and wine labels.

The exhibition coincides with the centenary of Corbans Wines, based in West Auckland, and will also feature items from their collection.

On Sunday 18 August, a Museum Living Treasures Day will celebrate the wonders of wine. Join us for a day of tastings, talks, performances and demonstrations.

Left: Antonio Zame of Capri Vineyard, 1968. Photographer: Marti Friedlander

OPENS ON 22 JUNE AND RUNS UNTIL 25 AUGUST

Auckland Museum gets a space lift

Auckland Museum has been awarded \$26.5 million towards the construction of a domed atrium within its southern courtyard.

The building, which will provide six new floors of collection, education and exhibition space in addition to improved retail, refreshment and parenting areas, will be contained within the Museum's current footprint and will be topped with a copper and glass dome.

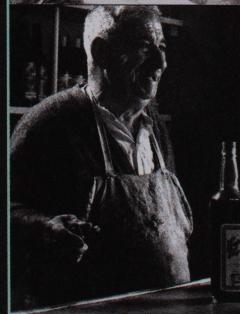
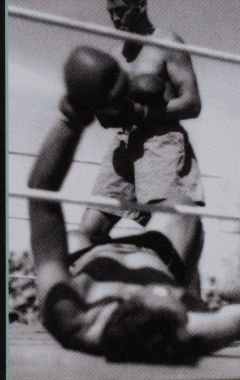
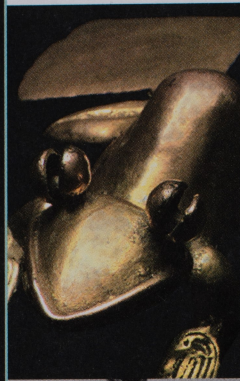
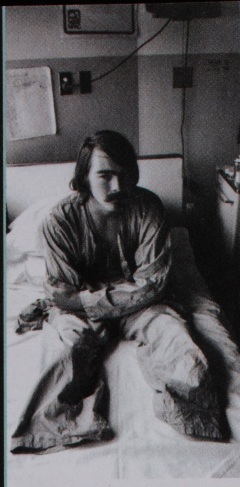
Construction is due to begin later in the year and conclude by Christmas 2004.

Director of the Museum, Dr Rodney Wilson says: "The Completion Project will provide safe, accessible storage for Auckland's renowned collections, proper workshops for staff, a dedicated education centre for adults and children, greatly improved visitor amenities and underground parking. A new large applied arts gallery will also be provided as will a workshop where visitors can see Maori artists and craftspeople at work."

The total cost of the project is \$52.7 million. The balance of funds will be raised by the Museum.



Exhibitions at a glance



Special Exhibition

Reporting the World: John Pilger's Great Eyewitness Photographers

Until 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

Until 31 January 2003

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

Pictorial Gallery

Private Paton's Photos: North Africa 1941-42

Until 4 August

A photographic exhibition of the work of Private Harold Paton, providing a glimpse of Kiwi soldiers' everyday lives during the Second World War. Curated in association with the New Zealand Herald.

Scars on the Heart

Volunteers and Militia

Until November 2002

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

East West Gallery

Pioneers of New Zealand Wine

22 June – 25 August

A display of objects, photographs, labels and memorabilia relating to the history of pioneer winemakers in New Zealand.

Ethno - Open Storage Gallery

Ferns and Folk

Until 27 August 2002

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