



Auckland Museum NEWS

Auckland Institute and Museum
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New Members

The Museum greatly values the support offered to it by members of the Institute and Museum. As well as their obvious financial support, through subscriptions and their donations to the special funds for the library and the purchase of exhibits, members support the Museum by their participation in its functions and activities, and also simply by acting in the community as a group with the interests and welfare of the Museum at heart. In return for this, members

receive the **Museum News** and the **Annual Report**, attend lectures and special functions, and may borrow books from the Museum Library. If you know a friend who would like to assist the Museum and receive the benefits by becoming a member, why not nominate them. Nomination forms are available on request at the Museum reception desks in the entrance foyer, in the administration entrance and in the library, at the Institute lectures or by post. The Museum is keen to increase its membership; by introducing a friend you can help both them and us.

The Botany of Auckland

Auckland Museum is proud to announce the publication of a further Museum handbook. **The Botany of Auckland** by Lucy Cranwell Smith, the Museum's Honorary Botanist, is a profusely illustrated guide to the plant life of the Auckland region, written in a way which makes it useful to anyone interested in the plants around them. Published at \$6.25, the book contains 27 colour plates, 74 black and white plates, 73 text figures, three maps and has a total of 156 pages. **The Botany of Auckland** is available at the Museum Shop as well as better bookshops throughout the province.

Older members will remember with affection Lucy Cranwell's articles on the botany of Auckland in the **New Zealand Herald** in 1936, written in collaboration with Professor Arnold Wall. These articles were published in handbook form in 1936 and in a new edition in 1942. Since then nothing of its sort has been available and, accordingly, a new, revised and expanded edition was

planned. The Museum is very grateful to Lucy Cranwell Smith for her generosity, both in handing over to the Museum the copyright in the book, and for contributing substantially towards the costs of its production. Thanks are also expressed to many people in New Zealand who have assisted with the production of the book in many ways, such as editorial work, the provision of illustrations, the design and production work, as well as their general support for the project.

The Botany of Auckland deals with the plant life to be found in the city itself and the surrounding metropolitan area, and includes some fascinating information on a landscape now greatly changed. Lucy Cranwell also discusses the botany of the Waitakeres and the Hunua, both coastlines and the islands of the Hauraki Gulf. As its sub-title suggests this is truly 'a book for all seasons' and the Museum is confident it will be enormously popular with the people of Auckland.

An Auckland Institute and War Memorial Museum Handbook



The Botany of Auckland

A book for all seasons

Lucy M. Cranwell



Members might like to be reminded also of the availability of some other Museum publications, which are also distributed to bookshops, as well as being available from the Museum shop.

Natural History of Auckland: An Introduction, edited by P.J. Brook (1979) 79 pp, black and white plates, figures, maps. \$1.50. Auckland's geology, soils, climate and plant and animal life are described by twelve leading Auckland scientists.

Maori Place Names of Auckland, David Simmons (1980; 39 pp. \$2.95.

The Museum's Ethnologist discusses the history and meaning of over 400 Maori place names of Auckland. Published in conjunction

with this is a large print (70 x 61 cm) of a map drawn by James Kelly showing the places to which the Maori names refer. \$9.95.

A Picture Guide to the Volcanic Cones of Auckland, E.J. Searle and Janet Davidson (1973, reprinted 1975) 28 pp (16 plates, map). 75 cents.

A geologist and an archaeologist describe the volcanic cones of Auckland as a guide to the interesting features of these hills for those who wish to visit them.

Native Animals of New Zealand, A.W.B. Powell (1974, revised 1951, reprinted 1975). \$1.50.

The Museum's all-time best seller, now in its ninth impression, Baden Powell briefly describes and illustrates over 400 New Zealand birds, fish, mammals, insects, shells and other animals. An invaluable guide to the beginning naturalist of whatever age. A list of other Auckland Museum publications is available on request. Trade discount is available on all Museum publications.

Royal Victorian Order

Many people ask 'where does the Museum get its collections?' While there are several answers to that, by far the greatest proportion of the Museum's collections have been given to it through the generosity of the people of Auckland who want to share with the public at large objects in their possession. The Museum is always grateful for this generosity and it is particularly pleasing to be able to acknowledge a recent acquisition. Many New Zealanders remember affectionately Dean Martin Sullivan, the Auckland who became Dean of St Paul's Cathedral in London. For his personal services to Her Majesty the Queen, the Dean was made a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, a comparatively rare Honour, particularly in respect of a New Zealander. Following his death, Mrs Sullivan has placed the insignia of the Honour in Auckland Museum. The Museum is very grateful to her, both because the insignia themselves are valuable additions to the Museum's collection of orders, decorations and medals, and because this provides a fitting way of commemorating the service of a noted New Zealander.



Museum Lectures

Since the last **News** members and friends have had the opportunity to hear interesting lectures from Ted Cohen of California, Graham Turbott, who gave a fascinatingly illustrated talk on the islands of the Gulf, and Harry Percival, who struck an excellent compromise between the technical and the general levels in lecturing on the chemistry of pottery making. Graham Turbott's talk in particular was well attended, no doubt partly because of the advertising the talk received through the friends of the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park Board.

Because of the change in date of the Annual Meeting, the next lecture in the series will be given by Mr Nigel Prickett on 'The Archaeology of the New Zealand Wars'. Nigel Prickett is the Museum's E. Earle Vaile Archaeologist and was formerly Director of the Taranaki Museum in New Plymouth. While in Taranaki, Nigel became interested in exploring archaeologically the field monuments which remain from the New Zealand wars of the 1860s and later. He subsequently developed that interest into the topic for a dissertation which has recently been submitted for a PhD at Auckland University. Nigel's ability to combine evidence from historical and archaeological sources has provided a fascinating wealth of information. His lecture should not be missed. Please make a note of the date: June 29 at 8 p.m. in the Museum Auditorium, having been brought forward from the September date advertised in the Syllabus.

The lecture on July 27 is a further one in the annual series sponsored by the Auckland Division of the New Zealand Medical Association. Professor J.C. Probert, Associate Professor in Oncology in the Pathology Department of the School of Medicine at Auckland University, will lecture on the subject 'Cancer — Its Treatment'. Oncology, for those who are unsure, is that branch of medicine concerned with tumours so Professor Probert is well as medical people and an interesting evening is assured. Lectures are designed to be of interest both to the layman as well as medical people. An interesting evening is assured.

In August, the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry will be celebrating its Jubilee. In honour of the occasion the Museum will be holding a joint lecture with the Institute of Chemistry when Professor Max McGlashan, a distinguished New Zealand scientist now working in Britain, will lecture on 'Energy Policies in Great Britain and New Zealand'. Professor McGlashan has a reputation in as a stimulating lecturer and his subject will be of interest to a wide audience. The lecture will be held on August 24.

Additional Lectures

On September 21, as already advised, Mr Prickett's lecture will be exchanged for the Annual Meeting. As usual, films will be shown after the formal part of the evening — details will be announced later. An extra lecture has now been scheduled for that month however. The Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Entomological Society has invited members of the Institute and Museum to a joint lecture to be given in the Museum Auditorium by the director of the Entomology Division of the DSIR at Mt Albert, Mr John Longworth. Mr Longworth will lecture on the topic 'Current Trends in Insect Pest Control in New Zealand', on Wednesday, September 30— please make a note of it. It is not shown on the Syllabus.

Another additional lecture which is not shown on the Syllabus but which will interest many members will be held on Sunday July 26 at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium. The newly formed New Zealand Society of Artists in Glass is bringing out to New Zealand for a workshop, Ed Carpenter of Portland, Oregon, one of the foremost exponents of the use of glass as an architectural medium. Mr Carpenter's topic is 'Values in Architectural Glass Design: a discussion and criticism of stained glass in historic and contemporary buildings'. He is a most stimulating speaker and will be illustrating his lecture with slides of his own and other work. Anyone interested in glass and its use in buildings should make sure not to miss this.

Finally, in a lengthy section devoted to lectures, mention should be made of the Archey Lecture for 1981. As many members will know,

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Museum Office



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the Archey Lectures were instituted in 1970 to honour the achievements in science of the Museum's former Director and Director Emeritus, Sir Gilbert Archey. Each year a distinguished scientist lectures on his work to an audience drawn from the secondary schools of Auckland. This year's lecturer is Dr M.C. Probine, the Chairman of the State Services Commission. His topic is 'New Developments in Electronics and Computing: Their Effects on Industry, Commerce and People'. Some 450 students will attend the lecture which is arranged in conjunction with the Auckland Science Teachers' Association.

Museums Liaison Officer



Auckland Star Photograph

This rather unusual "staff portrait" shows new Liaison Officer, Sherry Reynolds, with husband, David, and daughter, Emma. David Reynolds is on the Museum's Education Service staff. The painting is by Pamela Wolfe, wife of the Museum's Curator of Display, Richard Wolfe.

In April, the Museum Council appointed Mrs Sherry Reynolds to the newly created position of Museums Liaison Officer at the Museum. The position will involve liaison with, and the provision of advice and services to, local museums throughout the Auckland metropolitan and provincial areas. Consultation with local museum personnel revealed the need for this sort of liaison and Auckland Museum looks forward to a strengthening of its relationship with other museums in the province. The position has been created with the support of a subsidy from the Museums and Art Galleries Fund of the Department of Internal Affairs and the Museum is grateful to the Department for this assistance.

Mrs Reynolds has been closely involved in a voluntary capacity with the Devonport Museum. She was President of the Devonport Museum Society from 1977 to 1979 and since that time has been

Vice-President. Mrs Reynolds holds a Masters degree in Anthropology from Auckland University where her thesis research concerned the role of museums in presenting archaeological ideas to the public. She has also been involved in work for the Auckland Civic Trust and in archaeological site recording work for the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. Until she resigned to take up her appointment with the Museum, Mrs Reynold was a primary school teacher.

In the short time since she started work at the Museum, Sherry has already visited a number of local museums to familiarise herself with their situation and their needs, as well as making initial contacts with many others. She will become a familiar face in the local museums as time proceeds. The Auckland Museum is confident her appointment will prove a very useful one.

Museum Display

As in any large institution of similar age, Auckland Museum contains some displays that are of the highest standards and some that are . . . not. Renovation and redisplay of the Museum's galleries is a never ending task; some excellent results of such activity are to be seen in the Museum. The need is being felt, however, to arrive at an overall plan for the longer term development of the Museum's displays. The Museum Council will shortly be considering a draft plan prepared by the Director and staff with a view to adopting a longterm strategy. Details will be discussed in later issues of the **News**, but it is anticipated that the next major redevelopment of a Museum display will take place in the Maori galleries.

Museum display has come a long way from the days when objects could be simply lined up in rows in cases with a label for each object. Modern museum display is hopefully both more enjoyable and more informative. It is undeniably, however, more expensive. The redevelopment that is planned will undoubtedly be expensive, though it promises to be well worthwhile. To meet this expense the Museum Council is exploring a number of avenues of raising the necessary money. One step it has taken was referred to briefly in the last issue of the **News**, but a fuller explanation was inadvertently omitted; our apologies if you spent hours searching for the elusive paragraph.

Members will recall that the late Miss A.Z. Dixon left her estate to the Museum for whatever purpose the Museum thought best. Council has been pleased to create with Miss Dixon's bequest a Museum Display Development Fund as the nucleus of the sum that will be needed for the Museum's redevelopment. It will hope to solicit further gifts and bequests to this fund. In so doing, it is mindful that the generosity of the individual donors, like Miss Dixon, must not be lost sight of. Though the fund will have a general name, specific acknowledgement of Miss Dixon's bequest will be made in the displays of the future.

Subscriptions

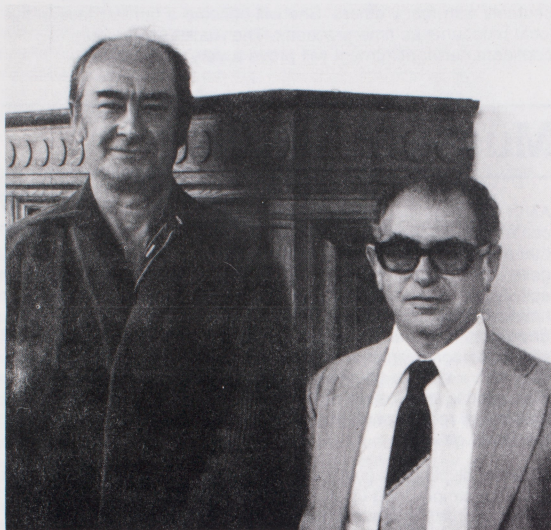
Members will have recently received their subscription notices for the current financial year. It would be greatly appreciated if payment could be made promptly; this saves the Museum the expense of a reminder notice. Under the Rules members whose subscriptions are two years in arrears are struck off. However, members with overdue subscriptions do not receive the **News** or other Museum publications. If you stop hearing from us, it is because we have not heard from you.

Date of Annual Meeting

Members will recall from the last **News** that a Special General Meeting was held in April to consider a proposed alteration to the Rules. This amendment was duly passed at the meeting with the result that the Annual Meeting will be held in September from this

year on. Formal notice of the meeting will be given in the next **News** but members are asked to remember the change in dates: the Annual Meeting will now be held on Monday, September 21, and Mr Prickett's lecture on 'The Archaeology of the New Zealand Wars' will be brought forward to Monday, June 29, as is advised elsewhere in this **News**.

Museum Research



Walter Cernohorsky (left) and Entomologist, Keith Wise, on their return from overseas research work into shells and insects respectively.

An inseparable part of a museum curator's duties in caring for the collections in his charge, in adding to them and in making them available to the public through displays or through books (**like The Botany of Auckland**), is the carrying out of research on those collections. The nature of this research will differ from one collection to another, but in every area of the Museum's work research is essential. The Museum is fortunate that much of the research carried out by its staff away from the Museum is able to be funded from sources other than the Museum itself. Two of the Museum's curators have just returned from periods of research in museums overseas.

Keith Wise, the Museum's Entomologist, received a Lottery Board Scientific Research Distribution Committee Grant to enable him to visit the South Australian Museum to continue his research into the insect family, Collembola, or spring-tails. Important collections of Collembola from Macquarie Island are held in Adelaide and one of their staff, Penelope Greenslade, has also been undertaking research into Collembola. Mr Wise found the opportunity to examine the collections and discuss their common interest with Ms Greenslade most useful. They determined about twenty species amongst the material examined, though some further detailed examination remains to be made. As a result of the work, a joint paper will be published on the Macquarie Island Collembola. Such research visits always have additional benefits and Mr Wise valued the opportunity to examine museums, their displays and their entomology departments in several Australian cities, as part of his visit.

Walter Cernohorsky, the Museum's Malacologist, has been conducting research into Pacific shells for many years. He, too, visited Australia on a grant from the Lottery Board earlier this year, but more recently, he was asked by the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History to spend a fortnight in Los Angeles working with their Research Associate in Malacology, Twila Bratcher, on their joint research interest in the family of gastropod shells known as Terebridae. The Los Angeles Museum met all Mr Cernohorsky's expenses for this visit.

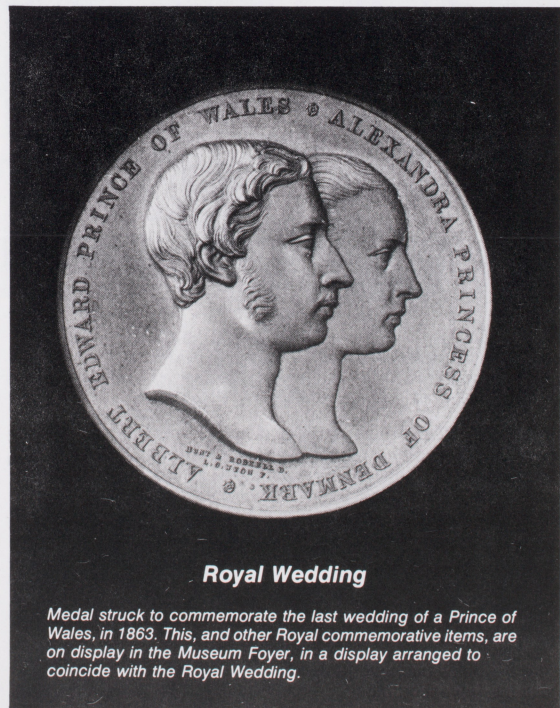
Overdue Library Books

The ability to borrow books from the Institute and Museum Library is one of the principal benefits of membership. Books are issued for four weeks at a time and members are asked to return them promptly. The Museum's small library staff are hard pressed to provide the service they do to Museum staff, members and the public. For this reason, often they have not the time to send overdue reminders to recalcitrant members. Would you please check to see that you have not overlooked a Museum library book and if you have finished with it, please return it — otherwise you can arrange to renew it. Members' cooperation in this respect would be greatly appreciated since chasing 'overdues' is one of the least rewarding aspects of a librarian's job.

Exhibitions

Following the exotic appeal of Indonesian textiles shown in the exhibition 'Woven Treasures', an exhibition closer to home in the Exhibition Hall has been the annual display of pottery in the Fletcher-Brownbuilt Awards Exhibition 1981. Once again a very high standard is shown and an innovative design for the exhibition developed by John Parker. Incidentally, the descriptive books on the 'Woven Treasures', their history and technology are still available from the Museum Shop — if you missed one during the exhibition.

The next exhibition to be shown in the Special Exhibition Gallery is an exhibition of books from the Federal Republic of Germany — some 3,500 books in all, no less. Sponsored by the Goethe Institute and the German Embassy, the exhibition will be accompanied by talks and audiovisual displays on German literature and publishing. This will be a rather different exhibition from our usual ones but it promises to be very interesting. 'Books on the Move' is followed at the end of July by the school pupils' mathematics exhibition 'Mathex 81', and in August by the 22nd School Science Exhibition.



Royal Wedding

Medal struck to commemorate the last wedding of a Prince of Wales, in 1863. This, and other Royal commemorative items, are on display in the Museum Foyer, in a display arranged to coincide with the Royal Wedding.