



# NEWS

Auckland Institute and Museum  
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November 1988

## CAROLS AT THE AUCKLAND MUSEUM

The Oriana Consort will sing Christmas Carols in the foyer of the museum on Christmas Eve. There will be two performances 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm. Do come and share this special time with us and enjoy some less well known carols. The Oriana Consort is an active group of Madrigal Singers who are also participating at our open evening in November. The group members are, Angela Hume, Lola Gregory, Margaret Barriball, John Hume, and Ronald Dellow.

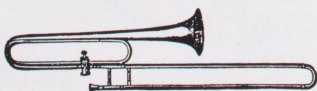
Members are especially welcome to this museum 'first'.

## Xmas Special Offer

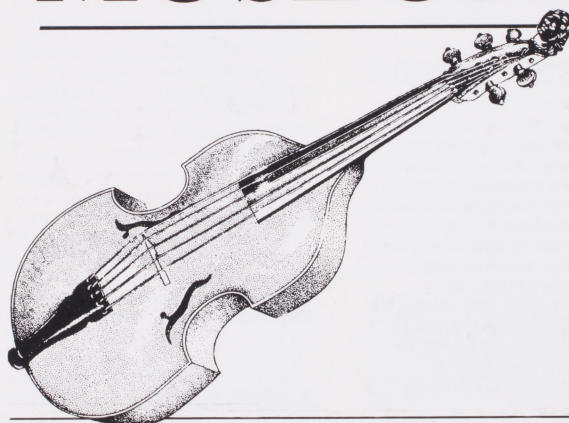
We are pleased to announce the opportunity for members to purchase the outstanding publication '**An Introduction to the Auckland Museum**' at a reduced rate of \$9.90.

Members will be interested to know that this was one of the last major photographic works undertaken for this museum by the late Brian Brake.

The book with text by Stuart Park has proven to be extremely popular and members may wish to include it on their Xmas shopping list. As stocks are limited, copies will be available at the 'Music at the Museum' open evening on 26 November. It will then be available at the Museum Shop from 30th November for a limited period or until stocks are depleted.



## MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM



Saturday 26 November 1988

**MUSIC AT THE  
MUSEUM  
26 NOVEMBER  
7.30 pm.**

Members are invited to join us for an exciting evening of music on Saturday 26 November at 7.30 pm. This function is the final of the members programme for 1988 and we hope you are able to attend. A wide range of musical events have been planned, as well as

an illustrated talk by Len Stanners. The exhibition **Surveying a Century** will also be open for special viewing. SEE THE ENCLOSED PROGRAMME FOR MORE DETAILS





## WHATS ON AT THE AUCKLAND MUSEUM

- 5-20 November BOOKS FROM CHINA  
Recent publications and traditional arts from China organised by the New Zealand Government Printing Office.
- 26 November MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM - 7.30 pm
- 26 November - SURVEYING A CENTURY  
6 December Topographical paintings and plans to mark the centennial of the NZ Institute of Surveyors.
- 14 December - MATS OF THE PACIFIC  
22 January Traditional Waist and sleeping mats from throughout the Pacific.
- 24 December CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE AUCKLAND MUSEUM  
Oriana Consort 12.00pm and 2.00pm
- 18 February - AUCKLAND WEAVERS EXHIBITION  
5 March.

### MATS OF THE PACIFIC

An exhibition showing a wide range of mats from many Pacific Islands will be on display in the Special Exhibition Hall from 14 December until the end of January 1989.

The exhibition will demonstrate the variety seen in mats, the different materials and techniques used and the varied approaches to design, colour arrangement and patterning. Of particular interest and significance is the importance placed on mats in traditional and contemporary social systems. They are specifically manufactured for an array of domestic and ceremonial purposes quite bewildering to the unprepared Westerner who assumes that mats are for the floor. While many are for such mundane purposes, others may be regarded as the finest cultural treasures of the land, or heirlooms from the past.

Each community has developed its own set of mat types with a range of



importance and value not always related to that of an adjacent group. Sometimes they fit into a closely structured system where, for instance, the type of sitting mat must be carefully selected to be appropriate to those who will use it; the family, casual visitors, guests on more formal occasions, foreigners, chiefs, and others of high rank or importance.

Mats are also used as gifts, payments and in ceremonial exchanges on important occasions. Birth, initiation, marriage, rank and finally death are often marked with the presentation or display of important mats.

During the first week, 14-20 December, the exhibition will be launched with mat making demonstrations by Pacific island and New Zealand Maori groups, and an additional display of recent work mounted by the artists themselves.

**Mick Pendergrast**

### LIBRARY CLOSURE

As in previous years the museum library will close during the first week of December. The library will be closed between Monday 28 November and Saturday 10 December, inclusive.

This time will again be used to help the library staff to catch up on a back log of administrative and organisational tasks which are not possible to undertake during normal opening hours.

We apologise if this closure causes any inconvenience to our members and other users of the library.

If you wish to return books during this period there will be a book collection unit on the ground floor of the administration area.

## Volunteer News

This final 1988 edition of the News must not allow to go unnoticed the tremendous contribution made by the Volunteers to this museum. There are an extraordinary number of people who willingly give their time to the museum. So, very special thanks to all of you, in the Library, Ornithology, Applied Arts, to shop volunteers and to the guides. We appreciate your involvement.

### A SALUTE TO SURVEYORS

From the earliest colonial times surveyors penetrated into every corner of New Zealand, sketching and noting the topography, the geology, the flora, and recording their interchange with the Maori. Their contribution to New Zealand's development was immense as they laid out town plans, set out roads, railways and telegraph lines, and in doing so were often the first Europeans to venture into many parts of both Islands.

1988 is the Centenary year of the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors and the Auckland Museum is presenting an exhibition *Surveying a Century*, in the Museum Exhibition Hall from 26 November - 6 December.

Complementing the exhibition is a new book by one of our Institute members Nola Easdale, which celebrates the NZIS centenary. It is titled *Kairuri - the Measurer of Land* and uses the writings and sketches of the 19th Century surveyors to show what their life was like.

The visitor to the exhibition will see a replica of the rough bush camp, surveyors paintings and sketches, old plans, field books, photographs, and surveying and draughting instruments. These items have been gathered together from the collections of the Museum Library, the Department of Survey and Land Information, the Royal New Zealand Navy Hydrographic Office, and other sources. The present day will not be neglected however and such subjects as electronic surveying, aerial mapping and modern hydrographic survey methods will also be featured.

The exhibition is being organised by staff of the Museum Library and members of the Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors.

**Ian Thwaites**



## STAFF

John Coste  
Liaison Officer  
Museum of  
Liaison Officer  
information  
resources  
throughout  
Liaison Officer  
Auckland,  
National Museum  
began at Auckland  
operates within  
Galleries and  
the NZ Lottery

Before coming  
was employed  
archaeologist  
Places Trust  
the Department  
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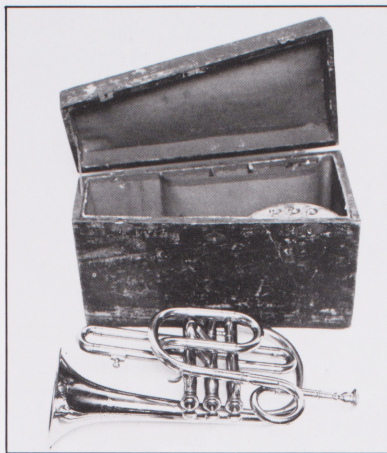
## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS IN THE MUSEUM

The Museum has substantial holdings of musical instruments from many parts of the world - in all, more than 600 instruments. As might be expected, the most comprehensive collection is that of Oceania, and of course, in particular, of Maori instruments. In most areas of Oceania, with the exception of Papua New Guinea, the variety of instruments used traditionally is not large. Stringed instruments were virtually non-existent, so the collections contain mostly wind instruments, log drums and a limited range of drums with membranes. Although collection by early Pacific voyagers and missionaries resulted in Oceanic instruments being widely distributed among European museums and private collectors, it is thought that this Museum could well have one of the most comprehensive Oceanic collections in the world. As a result, an illustrated catalogue of Oceanic instruments in the museum's collection has been prepared by Dr. Richard Moyle of Auckland University, and this will be published next year. In addition, the Museum is actively seeking to fill the known gaps in the Oceanic collection.

There is a small scattering of Asian musical instruments, the most comprehensive being the Chinese collection which was substantially added to recently. Most of these Chinese instruments are at present on display between the Furniture and Botany Halls. Considering our limited links with Africa, the African collection is quite large, comprising some 86 examples of 19 different types of instrument.

The Military Department has two drums and 9 bugles, all with military associations.

The Western instruments with which most of us are more familiar, are held in the Applied Arts Department. Perhaps the most important item is the Webster organ, thought to be the first pipe organ built in N.Z. This, together with three early pianos and some recently restored flutes, is on display in the Furniture Hall. Both the Webster organ and the Collard grand piano have been, and a Broadwood square piano of 1843 is currently being restored to playing order. A generous bequest from the late Mr John Seabrook greatly assisted in this conservation work. These instruments are available for public performance, the most recent of which was a concert on the Collard grand by Colleen Rae-Gerrard, who is



a specialist in performance on early pianos. It is planned that all three of these keyboards will be played on the evening of 26 November. There are several upright pianos, two on display, and another on loan to Ewelme. Some half dozen reed organs or harmoniums are also held, all in need of restoration to some extent. Among the more noteworthy reed instruments is a very early Victorian accordion which can be seen in Centennial Street. A recent acquisition is a violin by James Hewitt, widely regarded as this country's first professional violin maker.

This collection of Western instruments is small and fragmentary in relation to the range of instruments used in Western culture. There are some 56 instruments of some 25 different types, whereas Western culture embraces more than 100 basic types, many of them, such as flutes or drums, incorporating a wide range of significant variants worthy of inclusion in any collection.

A related activity is the development of a register of musical instrument makers and restorers as part of a wider register of New Zealand craftspeople, designers and manufacturers. Reaching back as it does to the earliest Colonial period, the register involves considerable research, but for many of the earlier names, little information is available. In some cases, it may well be confined to having sighted a named label in a surviving instrument. If any reader has any information on instrument makers of the past, it would be most welcome.

For obvious reasons, the Museum is not always aware of the history of items in the collection. One example of this is the cornet recently added to the collection of Western instruments. It was clearly an old cornet, and was firstly referred to one of the more knowledgeable brass instrument craftsmen in Auckland. This led to some research. As the cornet is

nickel-plated, a starting point was to establish the age of this process. The Encyclopedia Britannica disclosed that the first commercial nickel-plating process was developed in Paris in 1867. This set the earliest possible date for the instrument. The next lead was the unusual valve system. Search in Groves Dictionary of Musical Instruments showed that they were Stolzel valves. It also showed that most brass instrument makers had by 1850 abandoned these valves in favour of the more efficient Perinard valves, which were however more costly. Several Parisian makers of cheaper instruments however, continued to use the Stolzel valves up to 1915. This gave outside dates for the cornet of somewhere between 1867 and 1915.

This cornet was received with several crooks and shanks. Experiment showed that the coiled crooks were A and G, while the shanks were A and B shanks. Grove stated that such shanks had become generally obsolescent by about 1850, and that by about 1900 the B shank had been incorporated with the mouthpiece to make the cornet a simple B instrument.

The cornet is engraved with the name "T. Z. Ellis, 133 & 135 Euston Rd., London." This name could not be found in any list of makers and could therefore be deemed to be that of a dealer, and by implication, an importer of musical instruments.

From all this, it has been concluded that the cornet was almost certainly made in Paris between 1867 and 1915. If one adds to this, the presumption that no maker of cheaper instruments would willingly continue to add the cost of obsolescent shanks and coiled crooks for very long, it suggests that the cornet was made for T. Z. Ellis quite soon after nickel-plating was introduced, and thus very likely dates from the 1870's.

**Len Stanners**

## Museum Board

At a Special General Meeting following the Annual Meeting, an election was held for a representative to the Auckland Institute and Museum Board, one of the Trustees of the Auckland Institute and Museum. The Trust Board elected Dr. Ferguson as a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum Board, one of the Trustees of the Auckland Institute and Museum.

At the meeting, Dr. Ferguson was received, thanked, and thanked. Dr. Ferguson was declared elected to the Auckland Institute and Museum Trust Board.

Dr. Ferguson was elected to the Auckland Institute and Museum as a representative of the Auckland City Council. He has served on the Council since 1986 and was elected to the Council in 1986. He became Past President of the Council in 1986 and was elected representative of the Council to the Life Member of the Auckland Institute and Museum in 1986.

## Charles Award

The Royal Society of New Zealand established the Charles Award for Environmental Achievement, in recognition of the work of the late Charles F. M. (1914-1986) who died in 1986. The award is made every three years to a group or organization in New Zealand who have made a significant contribution to the ecology and environment.

Sir Charles F. M. was a member of the Shell Club established in 1986 and was a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum. He was a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum and was a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum. He was a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum and was a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum.



## Museum Trust Board

At a Special General Meeting following the Annual General Meeting, an election was held to elect a representative of the Members on the Auckland Institute and Museum Trust Board, one of the three members of the Auckland Institute and Museum Trust Board elected by the members of the Auckland Institute and Museum under Rules 2 and 8. The election followed the death of Mr Graeme Frater, a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum Trust Board elected to the Board at a Special General Meeting in September 1982.

At the meeting, only one nomination was received, that of Dr R H Lindo Ferguson. Accordingly, Dr Ferguson was declared elected as a member of the Auckland Institute and Museum Trust Board.

Dr Ferguson was elected to the Council of the Auckland Institute and Museum as a representative of the Auckland City Council in 1968, and he has served continuously as a member of the Council since that time, though in several different capacities. He was elected a representative of the Members on the Council in 1975, and was elected President in 1980. He became Past President in 1983, and in 1986 was elected again as a representative of the Members. Dr Ferguson was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Auckland Institute and Museum in 1985.

## Charles Fleming Award

The Royal Society of New Zealand has established the Charles Fleming Award for Environmental Achievement, to honour the life and work of the late Sir Charles Fleming, who died in 1987. The Award will be made every three years to individuals, groups or organisations resident in New Zealand who have benefited humanity in the general fields of ecology and environmental science.

Sir Charles Fleming had a long association with the Auckland Institute and Museum. He was an early member, in the 1930s, of the Boys' Shell Club established by the Museum's former Assistant Director and Honorary Life Member, the late Dr A. W. B. Powell. Throughout his life, he maintained a close interest in the Museum and its activities, and he was a generous benefactor, especially of books for the Museum Library.

For these reasons, the Council of the Auckland Institute and Museum resolved at a recent meeting to support the appeal launched by the Royal Society to provide funds for the Award. The Council resolved to donate \$500 towards the Award fund. It also resolved to draw the existence of the Award and the appeal to the attention of our Members, with the encouragement that they should also contribute individually.

If you would like to contribute towards the Charles Fleming Award for Environmental Achievement, please send your donation to Stuart Park, Director, Auckland Institute and Museum, Private Bag, Auckland, for forwarding to the Royal Society of New Zealand. Cheques should be made payable to the Royal Society of New Zealand.

## Honorary Life Members

At the Annual General Meeting in September, two former staff members of the Institute and Museum, were elected to Honorary Life Membership for their service to the Museum, both during their working careers and since their retirement.

Mr Trevor Bayliss retired in 1978 as Assistant Director of the Auckland Institute and Museum. He was appointed to the Museum in 1958 as Extension Officer, and then from 1964 became the Museum's first Curator of Applied Arts. In 1971 he was also appointed as Assistant Director, and in 1972 he took on the additional duties of being Curator of Display. When Mr Bayliss retired in 1978, four people were required to take over different aspects of his work!

Mr Trevor Bayliss.



In 1977 Mr Bayliss' contribution to museums in New Zealand was recognised by his being made a Fellow of the Art Galleries and Museums Association of New Zealand. In 1983 Trevor Bayliss was appointed Honorary Curator of Asian Arts at the Auckland Institute and Museum. He has continued to be of great service to the Museum, especially to the Department of Applied Arts, by making available his considerable knowledge of the decorative arts and especially the arts of Asia, when called upon for assistance by the Museum staff.

Miss Enid A. Evans was Librarian of the Auckland Institute and Museum for 24 years from 1946 until her retirement in 1970. Throughout her long period of service her work was marked by her outstanding organisational ability and her high professional standards. Under her care the Auckland Museum Library developed into the locally and internationally renowned reference and research department of the Museum which it has continued to be. She also developed the Archives and photographic sections of the Library which are today a priceless asset in historical research.

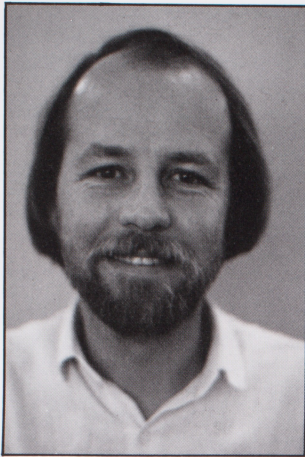
Enid Evans was made a Fellow of the Library Association of New Zealand and the Art Galleries and Museums Association of New Zealand in recognition of her professionalism and her service to the Auckland Institute and Museum. Over the 18 years since her retirement, Miss Evans has maintained her interest in the Library, providing assistance, information and comment when requested to help the present Librarian Ian Thwaites.

In recognition of the long service given to the Museum by Trevor Bayliss and Enid Evans, their nominations for Honorary Life Membership were approved unanimously by the Annual General Meeting. We offer them both our congratulations.

Miss Enid Evans, taken in 1958 during the major move to the new administration block







## STAFF NEWS

John Coster, the new Museums Liaison Officer, began duties at the Museum on 22 August. The Museums Liaison Service provides advice, information, training and access to resources for museum personnel throughout New Zealand. Museums Liaison Officers are based at the Auckland, Canterbury, Otago, and National Museums. The Service began at Auckland in 1981 and operates with the assistance of the Art Galleries and Museums Scheme of the NZ Lottery Board.

Before coming to the Museum, John was employed as a field archaeologist, by the NZ Historic Places Trust, the NZ Forest Service, the Department of Lands and Survey and, most recently, the Department of Conservation. He has undertaken field work throughout the Auckland Province and, as a result, is familiar with much of the Liaison Officer's area, which includes Northland, Auckland, the Bay of Plenty, Coromandel, Waikato and King Country. John has particular interests in landscape history and cultural resource management, including the management and conservation of historic and archaeological sites. He sees his experience in resource management as extending naturally into the field of museum work. He has had professional contact with a number of museums in the Auckland area and has worked with Maori communities involved in the protection of archaeological and traditional sites and artefacts.

John was at one time a practising silversmith and retains a strong interest in the decorative arts. He lives in Westmere with his wife Gabrielle Johnston, also an archaeologist, and their two young sons.

## XMAS SHOPPING AT THE MUSEUM

The Museum Shop's popularity and splendid reputation continues to grow and offers both visitors and Aucklanders a wide range of quality goods. The shop has an enviable collection of fine craft work produced by New Zealand's top crafts people that would be a pleasure to give and to receive. Come and browse, we feel sure you would find shopping a pleasure, and the friendly staff willing to advise and assist.

## Local Government Reform

Members will be aware of the major changes pending in local government as a consequence of the work of the Local Government Commission. The Auckland Institute and Museum is an incorporated society owned by its members, rather than a local authority. However, because the Museum has statutory power to strike a rate on local authorities in the Auckland region, it comes within the ambit of the Commission. The Council of the Auckland Institute and Museum has made detailed submissions on this matter, since it was possibly within the Commission's power to amalgamate the Museum with a particular local authority. The Council argued that for a variety of reasons, both legal and constitutional, and in relation to the level of museum service offered to the people of the region and their visitors, the Auckland Institute and Museum should remain as a special purpose authority.

In its Indicative Scheme for the Auckland Region, released in September, the Commission has agreed that the Museum should continue as a special purpose authority. There will inevitably be changes affecting the Museum, however, especially in the way in which the local authorities which fund the Museum are represented on its Council. Discussions between the Council, the Commission and the new local authorities will continue on this question.

## Council Elections

At the Annual General Meeting, the Museum's Director, as the Returning Officer, declared the following results in the election for four representatives

of the Members on the Council of the Institute and Museum:

Peter BROOK	362
Hugh KAWHARU	307
John INGRAM	306
Fergus SCHISCHKA	282
Brian BARTLEY	242
Invalid votes	6

Accordingly, the President declared elected the successful candidates Dr Brook, Mr Ingram, Professor Kawharu and Mr Schischka, offered them her congratulations and thanked Mr Bartley for allowing his name to go forward for election. Dr Brook, Professor Kawharu and Mr Schischka are sitting members of the Council, while Mr Ingram has been elected to the Council for the first time.

Mrs Weight also noted that Dr John Rogers had not offered himself for re-election, and would accordingly retire from the Council. Dr Rogers had been a representative of the Members on the Council since 1970 and he had served the Museum very well over this long period. The President expressed the thanks of the Council and the Members to Dr Rogers for his service to the Museum.

## Passchendaele

On October 12th 1917, the Battle of Passchendaele began. On October 12th this year, seven veterans who served in the Battle of Passchendaele met in the World War One Hall of Memories at the Museum to lay a wreath in memory of their many comrades who did not survive.

One of the veterans, Bert Stokes, spoke of his attendance last year in Belgium at the 70th anniversary commemoration. He referred to his response then to a questioner who had asked why he was travelling so far to glorify war. For Mr Stokes, the answer was simple. He was not involved in any attempt to glorify war, but simply in an act to honour the memory of his many good friends and comrades who died alongside him during the battle. Several fellow members of the gun crew in which he served were killed by a shell which fell among them - he was a fortunate survivor.

The service was arranged following an oral history project of the Stout Centre in Wellington, to document the personal memories of World War One veterans. One of the researchers, Nicholas Boyack, commented that today it would be a very rare occurrence indeed for seven veterans from the Battle of Passchendaele to be together in one place to commemorate their comrades on October 12th.





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.

