

## THE LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS

### 140 years — periodically reviewed

By Bruce Ralston, Manager, Library and Information Services  
The Museum Library / Te Pataka Matapuna

Periodicals, or serials, are publications that are published regularly over a period of time. They cover such things as magazines, journals, newsletters and newspapers.

When the Auckland Institute was established in November 1867 it set out to create a museum, library and meeting place for the promotion of art, science and literature. One of the first actions of the new Council was to instruct the Secretary, Thomas Bannatyne Gillies, to place subscriptions to a selection of periodicals. This is not surprising for an organisation setting itself up in the mould of the learned societies of Britain and America. As today, periodicals were the best way of presenting and receiving new information. So in some respects periodicals or serials form the core of the Library the Institute then built.

The Council chose the following titles to start their collection: *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*; *Geological Magazine*; *Chemical News*; *London, Edinburgh and Dublin Philosophical Magazine*; *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*; *American Journal of Science*; *Gardeners' Chronicle*. Very soon after, *Nature*, *Scientific American*, and *Mining Journal* were added to the list.

These titles, with the exception of *Chemical News* (it was transferred to the University of Auckland Library in 1969) are all still in the Museum Library's collection.

Within a short time the selection of titles was reviewed and some changes were made. Three titles were dropped and some new ones added so by 1871 members could also look at *Practitioner*, *Lancet*, *Botanical Magazine*, *Mechanics' Magazine* and *Popular Science Review*. And in true, orderly library practice, the Council set up a register to record who had what on loan. Not a lot has changed – it is still basic business for all libraries.

By 1911 the botanical interests of Thomas Cheeseman, the Museum's curator and director, were perhaps reflected in the increased number of botanical journals, but there were also a range of chemical and philosophical titles as well, something

not at all familiar to the current focus of the collections. Today there are almost 3000 serial titles catalogued online, and perhaps another 3000 titles are not yet recorded electronically. These are mostly recorded in our card files. We received issues for over 535 periodical titles in 2006.

Library visitors can view a selection of twenty-two of the most current issues in the Reading Room. 140 years later *Scientific American* is still there for you to look at, but the theme of the other 21 titles has changed. Today the emphasis is on craft, anthropology, archaeology and history.

Very early on the Auckland Institute established exchange of publications with overseas institutions. In the 1870s, through the auspices of the local American Consul, publications of the Smithsonian were added to the collection. Since 1930 when the Institute started publishing its own academic periodical, *Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum*, we have established an exchange programme with museums and other similar institutions throughout the world. Each year, material arrives from Poland, Japan, India, Denmark, Bolivia as well as America, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia. This reciprocal arrangement is an essential part of our collection maintenance.

In 2005 the Museum Library's serials collection provided the content for the publication *Fronting up: Classic New Zealand Magazine Covers*. This was a sample of more than 100 magazine covers from 1840, focusing on the graphics and information content of the covers, and indicating the role these important parts of our day-to-day life play in shaping our knowledge and identity.



Bruce Ralston holding the first recorded copy of the *Gardeners' Chronicle*; one of the first seven periodicals ordered by the Institute in 1868

**Auckland Museum *Records* Volume 43** (for 2006) has just been published. The *Records* contains the results of research on the Museum's collections, and research carried out by Museum staff members in their various fields. Included are papers by Roger Neich and Kelvin Day (New Plymouth), Rhys Gardner, Michael Eagle and Margaret Morley and colleagues. Brian Gill has a catalogue of the 36 moa eggs (from museums in New Zealand, Britain and America) that are sufficiently whole for measurement. Copies of the *Records* are available in the Library and are also on sale in the Museum Shop for \$36 incl. GST.

#### Museum Bulletins

Not all the Bulletins are still in print, but there are limited copies of some. A full list of titles is available <http://www.aucklandmuseum.com/default.asp?t=641> or from staff at the Museum Shop (09) 309 2580

**Context (Costume & Textile Section magazine)** – copies are available in the Museum Library or for sale from [info@costumeandtextile.co.nz](mailto:info@costumeandtextile.co.nz) or Jennifer Matheson, phone 09 8460194; some back issues will be available for purchase at Symposium (see inside cover for Symposium information).

***The Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New Zealand 1868–1961*** now available on-line at <http://rsnz.natlib.govt.nz/>

This is an excellent site and well worth investigating. There are feature articles from contributors such as Walter Buller, James Hector, Ernest Rutherford and Thomas Hocken, covering topics in science ranging from agriculture to zoology. There is also important material on topics such as philosophy, history and literature and a picture gallery, giving direct access to the many line drawings, maps and photographs included in the journals.

# events and updates...

## About the Chairs... Thank you!

The Institute is immensely proud of the contribution made by its members to the new Museum development. All chairs have now been donated. Name plaques will be placed randomly on chairs but where more than one chair has been donated by the same person or organisation, chairs will be grouped together. Thank you once again to all who gave so generously.



## Signage and Seating

There have been two resounding criticisms of exhibitions by a number of members recently. The first is that signage inside new galleries is too small and too faint to be easily read, and the second is a plea for more seating or for mobile seats which could be used during gallery visits or talks.

Gallery Renewals Manager, Malcolm Ryan, has heard concerns about signage with a great deal of sympathy. However, the standard used by Auckland War Memorial Museum is used all over the world and was established by the Smithsonian Museum. Discreet signage is designed to help limit visual clutter around artefacts, leaving objects space to be properly appreciated.

In addition, conservation requirements of many objects, particularly textiles and fibres, specify very low light for their preservation. It may be that a compromise is needed but this will not be solved in the short term. Meanwhile, the Institute proposes to offer training in accessing the vast quantities of electronic information available in the hope that this might help those who find the accompanying written text difficult.

As regards seating, investigations will begin around the purchase of suitable mobile gallery seats. These need to be stable and easily stored when not in use. The Institute intends to look into this during the year.

## New Institute Member Benefit

### The New Zealand Geographic Magazine

All current Institute members are now invited to subscribe for a 15% reduction on the recommended subscription price.

Phone (09) 307 0399 or email [publisher@nzgeographic.co.nz](mailto:publisher@nzgeographic.co.nz) to take up this offer and quote your membership number and expiry date.

NEW ZEALAND  
**GEOGRAPHIC**

## Preview Egypt: Beyond the Tomb and Bring a Friend

**NUMBERS ARE LIMITED AND BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. THERE WILL BE A \$10 CHARGE PER PERSON, WHICH WILL COVER LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, WINE/JUICE AND FINGER FOOD. FOR CATERING PURPOSES PHONE 306 7048 TO BOOK BEFORE MAY 18TH.**

There will be a special Members' Preview of *Egypt: Beyond The Tomb* on May 23rd prior to the May 25th opening. Institute members are invited to bring a non-member friend and enjoy a preview of this exciting new exhibition from 5.30-7pm. The Institute is aiming to increase member numbers and this is one way to show people the benefits of membership. Please let friends know that lighting and objects may not be in their final position as installation tends to continue right up to the official opening.

## 6th Annual NZ Costume & Textile Section of The Auckland Museum Institute Symposium

### Migration and Adaptation: Connecting Through Cloth

**FRIDAY 9 MARCH, 9AM-5PM BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. FOR DETAILS, BOOKINGS AND A COPY OF THE PROGRAMME GO TO WWW.COSTUMEANDTEXTILE.CO.NZ FOR REGISTRATION PHONE TRACEY WEDGE ON 09 846-2412 OR 021-846-241.**

A vital component of this symposium is a series of one hour tours through the Galleries and collections at Auckland Museum. Tours will highlight Pacific and Maori textile and fibre collections focusing on adaptation and innovation and will be provided by Museum staff. An exhibition of textiles by designers; Liz Mitchell, Doris Du Pont, Stan Wolgramm (three costumes from Style Pasifika finalists) Miranda Brown and World will be on display from March 4-16.

## The Inaugural Fazioli Piano Recital Series

**In association with the APO and Sly's Pianos**

Series tickets (\$160 for all four recitals) will be available to Institute and Circle members, APO subscribers, Museum staff and Museum volunteers until March 30th when they will go on sale to the public. Details of the programme are being finalised and will appear with MQ magazine. From March 30th, individual seats will be available for sale. The series is world class and expected to sell out. Please check the Museum website for details and phone 306 7048 to book.

## AK07 Strange Resting Places

TAKI RUA PRODUCTIONS

**SUNDAY 18 MARCH, 5PM, 19-22 MARCH, 7.30PM AUDITORIUM PRICE: ADULT \$35, FRIEND OF AK07 \$30, CONCESSION (MUSEUM MEMBERS) \$28, GROUP 6+ \$30 FOR BOOKINGS CONTACT TICKETMASTER PHONE (09) 970 9700 OR WWW.TICKETMASTER.CO.NZ**

In World War II there were three strong elements that connected Maori with the Italians; kai, waiata and whanau – not to mention cunning, thievery, vino and the ladies. Italy 1944: the battleground between the Allies and the Germans. The Allied advance comes to a grinding halt at Monte Cassino with the 28th Maori Battalion thrown in the thick of it. A young Maori soldier goes out to steal food; an Italian takes cover in a stable. The two men find themselves trapped in a dangerous face-off, but with Germans just outside their hideout, they realise they need each other to survive. Through songs and laughter, in Italian, Maori and English, and drawing on numerous hilarious and moving characters, *Strange Resting Places* tells the stories of the Maori Battalion in Italy. Check Auckland Museum publicity for details.

## Can the Neurosciences explain the mind?



ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND AND AUCKLAND MUSEUM INSTITUTE

**THURSDAY 8TH MARCH 7:30PM AUDITORIUM**  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION GO TO [WWW.RSNZ.ORG](http://WWW.RSNZ.ORG)  
THERE WILL BE NO CHARGE FOR THIS EVENT BUT ENTRY IS BY TICKET ONLY. TO ENSURE A SEAT, TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE BY EMAILING POSTAL ADDRESS DETAILS TO [BRAIN@RSNZ.ORG](mailto:BRAIN@RSNZ.ORG) OR BY PHONING 09 309 0443 EXT 883.

Steven P. Rose, Ph.D. Neurobiologist and Professor and Chair of the Department of Biology; and Director of Brain and Behaviour Research Group at the Open University UK. Professor Steven Rose is one of the UK's most eminent biologists and well known for his views and knowledge on both science and social issues including the use of drugs in the treatment of conditions such as ADHD, depression and Alzheimers. His studies have brought him a high profile and catalogue of awards but it is his belief in the moral dimension of human life that challenge some of the current orthodoxies of evolutionary biology and illustrate that, for him, the scientific will always be personal and political.

LATE NIGHT WEDNESDAY LECTURE

## "Mi painim aut asples tru bilong dis pela liklik rat" — Recent experiences on the rat's trail in Papua New Guinea and where do we go from here?

**WEDNESDAY 14TH MARCH 7:30PM AUDITORIUM**  
\$10 FULL PRICE, \$5 MEMBERS PLUS \$6 ENTRY TO EXHIBITION. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL, PH 306 7048



Dr Lisa Matisoo-Smith, Assoc Prof, Dept of Anthropology and Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, University of Auckland.

In continuing research tracking the origin of *Rattus exulans* (the Pacific rat or kiore) as a proxy for tracing human migrations, work has most recently been undertaken in Papua New Guinea. Given the biological diversity there and other conditions of working in the region, rat trapping presents numerous challenges not encountered when working in Polynesia. Recent results and experiences from fieldwork conducted on the islands off the north coast of New Guinea will be presented and discussed in light of archaeological, linguistic, human genetic and other animal and plant genetic data providing a wrap up to the Vaka Moana lecture series.

## New Zealand Institute of Mathematics & its Applications (NZIMA)



### The Music of the Primes

NZIMA AND AUCKLAND MUSEUM INSTITUTE

**THURSDAY, MARCH 15TH**  
5PM BOOK SALES 6PM LECTURE (NO CHARGE)  
LECTURE THEATRE 439, ENGINEERING SCHOOL  
BUILDING 401 20 SYMONDS STREET  
UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

Marcus du Sautoy, Professor of Mathematics, University of Oxford.

Prime numbers are the atoms of arithmetic and yet they represent one of the most tantalising enigmas in the pursuit of human knowledge. By looking at these numbers in a new way, mathematicians have discovered what they believe is the secret to the way Nature chose the primes. Professor Marcus du Sautoy is in New Zealand as a Visiting Maclaurin Fellow of the NZIMA and is author of the popular book *The Music of the Primes*. He has been chosen by 2004 Esquire Magazine as one of the 100 most influential people under 40 in Britain.

### Newton's Principia

AUCKLAND MUSEUM INSTITUTE AND NZIMA  
**WEDNESDAY APRIL 4TH 7:30PM AUDITORIUM**  
\$10 FULL PRICE, \$5 MEMBERS AND NZIMA MEMBERS, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL, PH 306 7048.

Charles R. Leedham-Green, Professor of Pure Mathematics at Queen Mary, University of London.

Prof. Leedham-Green researches the theory of groups, and he is currently visiting Auckland to collaborate with a colleague on a long-standing research project. He is working on a new translation into English of Newton's *Principia*. "Newton's *Principia* completely changed our understanding of astronomy and physics, and our appreciation of the power of mathematics to solve problems. The mathematical background Newton assumes is very little, and the stunningly clever ideas that he uses are all quite simple. Yet, the *Principia* remains difficult to read, either in the original Latin or in current English translations. I hope to clarify some of Newton's revolutionary ideas, and convey a feeling for what he achieved."

### Propaganda: Then and Now

**WEDNESDAY 2ND MAY 7:30PM AUDITORIUM**  
PICTORIAL GALLERY OPEN FROM 6.30PM  
\$10 FULL PRICE AND \$5 MEMBERS, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL, PHONE 306 7048.

Nicky Hager, Author.

The WB Sutch propaganda poster exhibition *Towards the Precipice* is a collection of Spanish, German, British and Soviet posters from the period 1935 to 1942. To coincide with this

exhibition, Nicky Hager, author of *The Hollow Men: A Study in the Politics of Deception* will discuss the characteristics of propaganda and its origins, and provide examples of modern day propaganda that have had an effect on New Zealand society.

"We can all recognise propaganda for what it is when it has pictures of Hitler or Stalin and 50 years later it can look blatant and awkward. We are less attuned to the propaganda of our own era. The Sutch posters provide a useful starting point for discussion."



### MEMBERS' TRAINING COURSE Information Resources

A programme has been developed as a result of member requests for access to better information in the galleries. Over five sessions, members will have computer and information systems in the Museum explained and demonstrated. Members may come to one or all of these sessions. More sessions may be scheduled if there is demand and an early evening time-slot will also be investigated if requested. The schedule is as follows:

**CENOTAPH**  
ACCESSING PERSONAL HISTORIES  
FRIDAY, MAR 30TH 9-10AM

Members may wish to bring the name of someone who served and died during the conflict (or since), and any other pertinent information such as rank, serial number, or unit, and use the opportunity to ask for help searching out information in the Cenotaph system.

**NATURAL HISTORY**  
ACCESSING INFORMATION  
ON A SUBJECT OF INTEREST  
FRIDAY, MAY 4TH 9-10AM

**TE KAKANO**  
ACCESSING INFORMATION ON  
OBJECTS FRIDAY, MAY 25TH 9-10AM

**GALLERY KIOSKS**  
ACCESSING INFORMATION IN THE  
GALLERIES [TO BE ADVISED]

**THE MUSEUM WEBSITE**  
ACCESSING MUSEUM INFORMATION FROM  
HOME [TO BE ADVISED]

Phone or email Alison Barnett to book or register interest. Places are strictly limited to 10, so booking is essential. Gather in the northern foyer at 8.50am for a 9am start. Entrance is via the small wooden door on the north (front) side to the left of the main revolving door of the Museum

## 138th Annual General Meeting November 29th, 2006

The AGM was marked by a friendly and collegial atmosphere from the first moments. This year President Mike Rowe thanked Jennifer Lamm and John Duder for their service as Institute nominated Trust Board members and introduced the two new Institute Trust Board appointees, John McIntyre and Wendy McPhail. Departing Councillors, Graham Foster and Bruce Bolland were thanked along with retiring Administrator, Margaret Spencer. Trust Board Chairman, David Hill and Trust Board members William Randall and Tim Hannah, along with departing Board members, Jennifer Lamm and John Duder all gave reports. Common themes were a focus on the future now that the building project is finally completed and acknowledgement of the enormous vision and effort of Museum Director, Dr Rodney Wilson. Trust Board members also reflected on their sense of loss at the passing of Sir Hugh Kawharu and on the privilege of having worked with him on the Museum Trust Board. Minutes can be downloaded from [http://www.aucklandmuseum.com/site\\_resources/2006\\_AGM\\_Minutes.pdf](http://www.aucklandmuseum.com/site_resources/2006_AGM_Minutes.pdf) or obtained through Alison Barnett.

## Council Election Results

In November 2006, the Institute held a full postal ballot. Although the majority of votes were valid, confusion over the voting system meant a number of votes were not able to be included.

A subcommittee has now been formed to review Institute voting procedures in the Rules.

Four successful candidates were announced at the AGM. However, in previous years, when there were fewer candidates than positions available, several existing Councillors had been co-opted rather than elected. Therefore, at the December 20th, 2006 Institute Council Meeting the other two candidates became Council members and

Philip Heath, Kae Kinnell and Maureen Jones were co-opted until November 2007 when they may formally seek election. Council is now made up of Ewen Cameron (Staff Representative), John Duder, Jennifer Hand, Philip Heath, Eric Keys (re-elected Council Vice-President), Jennifer Lamm, Maureen Jones, Kae Kinnell, Peter McConnell, Allan Mutch, Owen Ormsby, Bruce Ralston (Staff Representative), Bill Rayner and Michael Rowe (re-elected Council President).

## Volunteers

As a result of our volunteer job descriptions, the Institute now has help from four wonderful new volunteers. They will be profiled later in the year. Due to system changes, there is now a need for an accountant to help our Treasurer, Bill Rayner, with the financial records. Please contact Alison Barnett for more information.

## Dome Tours

To those with a Museum entry ticket, tours are available on Sundays between 1-4pm subject to Events Centre bookings. During the week tours are available to Vaka Moana ticket holders again subject to Events Centre bookings. If a tour of the Dome is the main reason for a visit, it would be advisable to phone the Museum receptionist to check on availability.

## The car park

Rates have been reduced to \$3 per hour. Payment is made at the pay station in the carpark lift area.

## Members' Lounge Access

Access cards to the Members' Lounge are slowly being distributed. Initial programming of these cards has been time consuming but all members should have their cards by April.

members' mondays : PLEASE BOOK BY CALLING 306 7048  
OR EMAIL [BOOKINGS@AUCKLANDMUSEUM.COM](mailto:BOOKINGS@AUCKLANDMUSEUM.COM)



MEMBERS GATHER AT THE NEW ATRIUM INFORMATION DESK AT 1.50PM FOR A 2PM START.

### MARCH 26TH **LE FOLAUGA — CONTEMPORARY PACIFIC ISLAND PAINTING**

Fuli Pereira, Curator Pacific, Auckland Museum, and Ron Brownson, Senior Curator, Auckland Art Gallery, have co-curated *Le Folauga* and will give a floor talk to discuss this exhibition. One of the contributing artists will also be available to answer questions.

### APRIL 30TH **LEE MILLER'S WAR**

Gordon Maitland, Pictorial Curator, Auckland Museum, will speak about documentary photography and be available to members in the *Lee Miller's War* pictorial exhibition.

### MAY 28TH **EGYPT: BEYOND THE TOMB**

Annie Hall, Metals Conservator, Auckland Museum, treated a Tibetan Buddha at the Victoria & Albert Museum and will discuss many of the conservation techniques and ethics involved in the preservation of ancient materials. Analytical techniques such as X-radiography, metal and pigment identification etc. will be described, as well as the paper scrolls found hidden inside the sculpture. Members will then have the opportunity to explore the newly opened *Egypt: Beyond the Tomb* exhibition



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IF YOU WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ON EVENTS BY EMAIL PLEASE CONTACT US WITH YOUR ADDRESS.  
EMAIL ENABLES US TO LET YOU KNOW OF THE MANY HAPPENINGS IN THE MUSEUM THAT ARE OFFERED AT SHORT NOTICE.

