

The 28th Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Hocken Collections Inc was held in the Foyer, Hocken Library, on Wednesday 20 November 2019. Hon Marian Hobbs presiding, with an attendance of 33 members.

ANNUAL REPORT

Hon Marian Hobbs presented the Annual Report for the year. She referred to the 2019 Talk Series - informative, attracting varied audiences, not all of whom were signed up members. It has been a goal of the committee to link with other communities of interest, as well as to celebrate what is being achieved by the Hocken.

Membership was kept informed through the publication of *Flotsam & Jetsam* Nos 82-85. Reference was made to the death of Dr Peter Holland who had so ably managed the process around the biennial research award, and that Dr Claire Matthewson had agreed to take over this responsibility. Hocken Collections had been involved in the recent administrative review of the University Library and the Friends of the Hocken Collections had presented a written submission.

Warm thanks were expressed to the staff of the Hocken for their work; to Mark Hughes for the agendas and minutes; to Carol Melville for the management of the accounts; for the organisation of the refreshments at each of the Talk Series by Gwen Anderson. Marian hoped the Friends of the Hocken Collections would continue as a strong advocate for the Collections.

Carol Melville presented the accounts for the year, which had been reviewed by Raewynne Pedofski. The net surplus for the year ending 30 June 2019 increased to \$2,708.00, and this is consolidating the existing asset base.

Subscription rates: Subscriptions remain the same - Ordinary \$25, Family \$30, Student \$10, Life (Individual) \$250, Life (Family) \$300, Corporate \$100}. Updated subscription form available for the financial year 1.7.2019 – 30.6.2020].

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

President: Rev Donald Phillipps

Immediate Past President: Hon Marian Hobbs

Vice President: the meeting agreed that the incoming committee fill this vacancy

Hon Secretary: Mark Hughes

Hon Treasurer: Carol Melville

Committee: James Beattie, Tom Brooking, Louise Croot, Laurence Fearnley, Ross Grimmett, Claire Matthewson and Lorraine Isaacs. The Hocken Librarian, Sharon Dell, represents the Hocken Collections, with Anna Blackman, Head Curator Archives, in an attendance & liaison role.

Note: The President of FOHC is the Friends' representative on the University's Hocken Collections Committee.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Donald Phillipps moved a vote of thanks for Marian's term as President of the Friends of the Hocken Collections and noted how interesting and focused Committee meetings have been during her time as chairperson.

SPILLING THE BEANS – CELEBRATING DUNEDIN CHOCOLATE MAKING, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Wallie Waudby, a retired senior employee of Cadbury's Dunedin, gave a very informative and entertaining presentation on the beginnings of the commercial making of chocolate in Dunedin, including its heyday and its demise. He reminded those present of the exceptional foresight of Richard Hudson, the founder of chocolate-making in New Zealand. The entry of Cadbury Fry into New Zealand in the 1920s, and their partnership with Hudsons was, in many ways, a meeting of minds.

The newly appointed General Manager of OCHO, Dale Clements, introduced himself and likewise gave a fascinating presentation on how chocolate is produced by OCHO. He shared the vision and guiding principles the company is working towards – sharing some similarities with the earlier decades of Cadbury's. He stressed the point that OCHO was not competing in the 'mass market', but that it was committed to the production of quality products, for which they believed there existed a significant market in this country.

HOCKEN COLLECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT

January – October 2019

Overall the University Library has been under strain adjusting to the implementation of the University's shared services model. This has seen finance, administration and IT staff and functions transferred to central shared service teams. At the same time, not all of the duties performed by those staff are provided by the central service so a lot of additional work is being picked up and that reduces the Library's capacity to make progress on some of the projects we have underway.

It has had a particular impact on our digital development and projects. It is very frustrating that we are still unable to display digitised items alongside the catalogue entry for them in Hakena and Library Search/Ketu.

The concerns we have had for some time about the University's unhelpful response to our storage space problems culminated in a request from the University Council for a report outlining issues around its responsibility for the Collection under the Hocken Deed of Trust. The report and a tour by the Council has highlighted those issues and further work is being done to look at things like risk management and insurance cover. The Council has asked for an annual update. The publicity about our storage problems was unfortunate. We were hoping to manage the communications a little better so that potential donors will not be put off. To our surprise in October we heard that Property Services would be able to schedule some work on the stacks we had been asking for for some time. Within a week, work had started on moving all plan cabinets out of the Map and Poster Stack into the Seminar Room, ready for some curtain walls to be removed and channels dug to install rails for mobile shelving. The effect of the building work means that there will be no access to maps and posters, and part of the archives collections until mid-January (all going well). In the end, the plan cabinets will be on mobile rails, thus taking up less floor space and enabling the installation of an initial 5 ranges of archival depth shelving.

The University's internal review of the University Library by the Quality Review Unit was an opportunity to assess Hocken's contributions to the University's goals and some of our broader needs. The Review Report will be available internally and help a new University Librarian chart a new strategic direction for the Library and Hocken. The current University Librarian, Howard Amos has retired and will leave work in mid-January.

A Dunedin documentary heritage survey organised by DCC's Ara Toi aimed to "gather information to explore the current landscape in archives and

heritage collections in Dunedin and to explore the visitor experience of users of these taonga". For Hocken the survey has provided useful feedback from researchers about the quality of their experience. It was good to see an almost universal appreciation of our resources and the help people received from Hocken staff. There were also some useful comments that will help us make improvements.

Hocken has made a significant contribution to the celebrations of the University's 150th anniversary. Not only was Hocken staff member Dr Alison Clarke celebrated for her masterly history of the University but we also provided information and images to several projects. including the exhibition *Dare to be Wise* at Otago Museum. We also ran an incredibly successful exhibition, *A Garden of Earthly Delights*, highlighting the cultural collections of the University.

Research Services

Our statistics show that we have helped about the same number of researchers this year compared with last year but there is an increase in the number of items issued. This is likely to be the impact of particular student assignments. There has been a big increase in the number of tours and classes we have run, with 600 more participants than the same time last year. Many of these are curriculum based and are part of a deliberate effort to engage more with University teaching and learning.

Collection work

The University engaged consultants to re-value the Pictures Collection. A lot of work went into supplying collection information ahead of a 3 day visit from the consultant. Graham French, a Christchurch resident, is an active and prolific donor; over many years he has sent several hundred boxes of books, serials, audio-visual material and ephemera to the Hocken. A lot of the ephemera was Christchurch-based so we agreed with him to stop sending that local material. A concerted effort to appraise and select from these donations was completed and 1,740 items added to the publications collection. The earthquakes affected local institutions' ability to receive material from us but with the new Christchurch Library opening we were able to send a large consignment of Christchurch ephemera to them in March.

Acquisitions included:

- Thanks to an initial contact by a staff member Hocken received a donation from the Muslim Students Association of the tribute banners created on campus by students in response to the March 15 events in Christchurch.
- We successfully bid on five items from the Christopher Parr auction in June but missed a further 10 because the prices were significantly higher than expected. The results of the auction

and the role of private collectors have been widely discussed in the media.

- A valuable purchase of 42 posters was made for the Ephemera collection from a private vendor.
- A significant gift of 48 photographs, 119 negatives, 188 postcards plus an album relating to Dunedin photographer, H.C. Gore, gifted by Alva Manson and her family of Dunedin.
- Works of art by Russell Clarke, Seraphine Pick, George O'Brien, Edward Bullmore and Joe L'Estrange.
- We hosted several Humanities Interns over the year working on a variety of collection-based projects.

Exhibitions, events and external engagement

- The 2018 Frances Hodgkins Fellowship exhibition titled 'In an orange my mother was eating' by Louise Menzies opened on Friday 15 February. The opening was well attended and attracted critical attention with several high-profile reviews.
- 'A Garden of Earthly Delights' was opened on 10th May by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Associate Professor Patricia Cragg. The exhibition has enjoyed consistently high numbers and very positive feedback.
- Tuia: Southern Encounters Exhibition, curated by Hocken Librarian, Sharon Dell, opened on Monday 9th September.
- Some necessary adjustments were made to the exhibition programme. We have now extended Tuia until Saturday 11 January 2020, and will be opening Imogen Taylor's Fellowship exhibition 'Sapphic Fragments' to the public on Saturday 1 February 2020, running until Saturday 28 March 2020.
- Frances Hodgkins Fellow Campbell Patterson's exhibition "Toot Floor" toured to the Pah Homestead.
- The annual 'Welcome for the Fellows' event was rescheduled from Tuesday 19 March to Tuesday 9 April in response to the Christchurch attacks.
- A very well received and attended programme of events with an accompanying foyer display was held to celebrate 2019 NZ Music Month. Over 90 people attended the 'Good old varsity: Celebrating the Otago Capping Sextet' event and there was a full house for the final Shakedown! An evening of 60s bands – The Titans and the Catlins River Boys. Several donations were received from original band members and family in conjunction with the preparation and outreach undertaken for the Shakedown! event. The Graham Downes event was filmed with the programme as a whole receiving a very pleasing coverage.
- We hosted an event to mark the 'McCahon 100' centenary celebration on Friday 9 August. The event deepened the relationship between the McCahon House Trust and the Hocken and participation meant the Hocken was included with institutional peers such as the Auckland Art Gallery and Christchurch Art Gallery in celebrating and acknowledging McCahon in 2019.
- Academic Wystan Curnow presented a lecture at the Hocken on Saturday 10 August at 11.00am on his recent McCahon
- Robyn Notman, Head Curator, Pictorial attended the Auckland Art Gallery's Colin McCahon exhibition 'A Place to Paint', opened by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. In her speech the Gallery's Director Kirsten

Paisley specifically acknowledged the Hocken's loan of McCahon's 'The Wake' to AAG.

- Hocken organised three events as part of the University-wide programme celebrating Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori 2019

It has been a particularly busy year for lending and borrowing with works coming in and out for our own exhibition programme and to support others:

- J.T. Thomson works to Singapore National Library,
- Colin McCahon's The Wake to Auckland Art Gallery, and a work to the McCahon House.
- 36 significant Hocken collection items and artworks for Dare to be Wise at Otago Museum

Projects

The University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Auckland War Memorial Museum. The Hocken Librarian is on the steering group for the MOU. Earlier in the year, we hosted Auckland Museum CE Dr David Gaimster, who came to discuss our interest in curating a joint exhibition project on early photography and in July a mobilisation meeting was held in Auckland with Hocken, Alexander Turnbull Library and Auckland Museum staff to initiate the project.

Projects to enhance our capacity to digitise collections, acquire and preserve born-digital objects and to display digitised and born-digital objects in our catalogues have met with varied success.

- A project to digitise all our Colin McCahon holdings has been completed.
- We have the technology and processes in place to enable us to add born digital material to the collections.
- However, the central plank of our research delivery strategy Delivery of digital collections via the catalogues (Hakena and Primo) has met with ongoing difficulties and is still not completed.

Marketing promotion online presence highlights

- A steady stream of articles has been supplied for the 'Cool and Collected' column for the Otago Daily Times.
- We have initiated a new monthly tour of the pictures stack titled 'What's in Store? Art!'
- An events brochure for 2019 was so successful it has been reprinted several times.
- Staff work closely with Caroline Davies from Down in Edin Magazine. She is an enthusiastic promoter of Hocken and our exhibitions (<http://www.downinedinmagazine.com>)
- We have continued to have a strong social media presence using Facebook and our Blog to promote events and collections and maintain a high media profile.

Hocken staff thank the Friends of Hocken Collections for their ongoing support. We appreciate the promotion provided by the Friends' talk series, the support to projects like WW1 transcription and advocacy.

Sharon Dell

FOHC RESEARCH AWARD 2019

Your Committee is delighted to announce that Dr Jonathan West is the recipient of this year's award. Members will, we are sure, want to know something of the nature of the work Dr West is undertaking and what follows is extracted from his application.



He is a professional civil servant and historian, and grew up in and around Dunedin, studying at the University of Otago (M.A., Ph.D.). His book, *The Face of Nature: An Environmental History of the Otago Peninsula* made extensive use of the Hocken Collections' archives and pictorial collections. Dr West manages the Historian team at Te Arawhiti: The Office for Maori Crown Relations.

This new project - ***Mirrors on the Land*** - is a major history of New Zealand's lakes. He believes it is both overdue, and more than timely, in a moment when freshwater quality is seen as our nation's number one environmental concern. Understanding the history of our biggest freshwater bodies has never been more politically or culturally important to our future. At the heart of the project are in-depth case studies exploring histories of especially significant lakes.

These histories relate to the importance of these particular lakes in the lives of the communities around them. Taken together, however, these case studies provide new lenses on environmental, economic and cultural change across New Zealand. Key themes include:

- the significance of lakes as *tupuna taonga* to Māori, a core focus for settlement, food, and healing, integral to the development of distinctive iwi cultures from Tūwharetoa, Te Arawa, and Tūhoe to Ngāi Tahu.
- the long colonial contest between Māori and the state over the ownership and management of significant lakes including Taupō, the Rotorua Lakes, and Waikaremoana. These are the examples, par excellence, of how the state and Māori have always forged negotiated settlements from the intersection of law and politics.
- The development of settler relationships with lakes, including romantic attachments exemplified in scenery preservation and conservation, acclimatisation and tourism – as seen at Wakatipu, Wānaka, Manapouri.
- The backdrop of deforestation, pastoralism, and farming of surrounding landscapes that dramatically altered the lakes with which settlers

had fallen in love, especially those they lived amongst - lowland lakes such as Te Waihora/Ellesmere, Wairarapa, or Horowhenua.

- The contest between hydroelectricity and electromagnetic industrialisation, on the one hand, and conservation and preservation on the other - conflicts in attitudes and economics famously crystallised in contests over Manapouri, Te Anau and Monowai, but which have other important histories in the effects on landscape and fisheries of the hydro lakes of the Waitaki river.
- The increasing intensification of land use, dairying and urbanisation that now poses critical and stark questions for our nation's future – questions framed by the issues of nutrient pollution, invasive weeds, and eutrophication, that confront not just heavily polluted lakes like Horowhenua or Te Waihora/Ellesmere, but now threaten even our cleanest lakes, from Wanaka to Taupō. This is an especial focus, one brought to life through extensive interviews with a wide range of people living around or caring for our lakes.

Dr West has largely completed research (and some writing) on Taupō, the Rotorua lakes, Tūtira, and Horowhenua. He has already investigated the exploration of Otago's lakes, primarily using archives, maps, and paintings held by the Hocken Collections. This research was presented at the recent 1869 Conference and Heritage Festival. He is focusing his effort at present on Waikaremoana, Te Whanga lagoon on the Chatham Islands; and Te Waihora/Ellesmere. Our Research Award will progress his work on the histories of his remaining case studies - the southern lakes, particularly Manapouri, Wanaka, and Waitaki.

It is particularly important to note that Dr West has a contract with Otago University Press who will publish *Mirrors on the Land* by 2024 at the outside.

FOHC MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions: *Individual*: \$30 per annum; *Life Member* \$250 *Joint*: \$30 per annum; *Joint Life Member* \$300
Cheques to: Friends of the Hocken Collections. Online payment: Westpac 030903 0393175 000 - "Subscription" in Particulars field, surname/initials in Code/ Reference fields.

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