

Phanzine

Newsletter of the Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa

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Editorial

December 2014 was PHANZA's 20th birthday, and Wellington-based members gathered to celebrate the occasion. This issue's cover photo shows Bronwyn Labrum, a member since PHANZA's early days, cutting the birthday cake. But PHANZA is now a truly national organisation, with members from one end of the country to the other, and over the page you can read of social gatherings organised by members in Auckland and Christchurch.

As *Phanzine* has previously noted, we are in the midst of a season of anniversaries at the moment. December 2014 was also the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the first mission station and the preaching of the first Christian sermon in New Zealand by the Rev. Samuel Marsden. Ceremonies were held at the end of last year at Rangihoua, Bay of Islands, to commemorate these anniversaries. As Paul Diamond reports in this issue, the bicentenary was also marked by a symposium and exhibition in Dunedin and the launching of a new online Marsden Archive. The online archive is a tribute to the dedication of retired Associate Professor Gordon Parsonson, who for many years has been transcribing early missionary manuscripts.

It's always nice to see historians receiving public recognition, and this year the contributions of military historians Monty Soutar and Chris Pugsley were recognised in the New Year's Honours list. We'll be hearing a lot about military history in this Anzac centenary year, but 2015 is also the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. As the historical Treaty settlement process moves towards its conclusion, it is itself becoming part of history. Murray Hemi tells us in this issue about a Ministry



for Culture and Heritage project to record New Zealand's Treaty settlement stories.

Speaking about recognising historians' contributions, it's important to acknowledge how much we can learn from overseas colleagues as well as those from our own country. US historian Jannelle Warren-Findley was a great friend of public history and public historians in New Zealand. Sadly, she died earlier this year, but she lives on in memories such as those

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► Editorial continued

which Claudia Orange and Gavin McLean share with us in this issue.

Before closing, one small but heartfelt request. Every year, the PHANZA committee spends a lot of time and energy chasing unpaid membership fees. Our fees of \$50 for waged and \$25 for unwaged members are very modest and have remained unchanged in spite of inflation. Many thanks to those of you who pay your fees promptly. For the rest, we know it can be very easy for these things to slip your minds, but you'd be doing us a huge favour if you could pay as

soon as you receive the notification. Also, just a note to check that you are paying to the correct bank account, as we changed banks something over a year ago.

We hope you'll agree that PHANZA membership provides good value for money, and the committee continues to think about what we can do to benefit our members. There is information in this issue about a symposium for Auckland members (see page 3). Do let the committee know if you have any ideas for other activities.

—Ewan Morris,
Phanzine editor

Welcome to new members

In the April 2014 issue of *Phanzine* we introduced a new feature – short profiles of new members. Quite a number of people have joined over the past year: welcome to PHANZA, one and all!

§ Grace Bateman is based in Otago, has worked on religious history and the history of childhood, and has a particular passion for oral history.

§ Joanna Boileau is based in Auckland, has worked in museums and as a freelance historian and heritage consultant, and has researched the history of Chinese market gardening in Australia and New Zealand.

§ Jonathan Burgess is based in Auckland, and has researched prominent international visitors to New Zealand, and Auckland University students who fought in the First World War.

§ Alison Clarke is based in Otago, has researched and published on the history of religion, holidays and childbirth, and is currently working on a 150th anniversary history of the University of Otago.

§ Sandra Cleary is based in Otago,

has an interest in colonial immigration history, and is currently researching pauperism in colonial Dunedin.

§ Phil Lascelles is based in Auckland, is interested in military history and has researched the history of New Zealanders in the Mercantile Marine during the First World War.

§ Richard Manning is based in Canterbury and is interested in the teaching of Māori and Treaty history in schools.

§ Robin McConnell is based in Northland and is particularly interested in sports history.

§ Amanda Mulligan is based in Wellington and is interested in architectural history and heritage issues.

§ Ron Palenski is based in Otago, and his interests include sports history, military history and New Zealand national identity.

§ Richard Thomson is based in Wellington and has historical interests including book history and Treaty issues (and, incidentally, he does the design work for *Phanzine*!).

PHANZA end-of-year functions

PHANZA members in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch gathered in December to mark the end of another year and to celebrate PHANZA's 20th birthday. The Wellington function is mentioned in this issue's editorial; below are reports on Auckland by Sandra Gorter and Christchurch by Marguerite Hill.



§ Auckland PHANZA members had a terrific Christmas gathering at Mezza Bar in Auckland City. Gathered left to right in the photo are: Joanna Boileau, Michael Wynd, Susan Verran, David Verran and Louise Shaw. Several other attendees are not in the photo, and I was the very amateur photographer, so my face is also missing in this record of a very enjoyable evening.

We all agreed that a historian's work in Auckland can at times be lonely when there are only friends and family to regularly share our love of history

with. The opportunity to meet up with others similarly 'afflicted' by this passion for things historical – how the cold, hard facts of our country's past fit together in enduring story lines – was incredibly rewarding. The informality of the relaxed atmosphere of the venue allowed us all to speak with every person in the group, gathering new insights or perspectives on our own work, through the interpretive lens of others approaching the same topic from a different point of view.

The group included members working for the Auckland Council, Waikato District Council, Devonport Naval Museum and Auckland Libraries. The rest of us are working on projects sufficiently diverse (Parnell baths, archaeology, HEB Construction and maritime history) to illustrate how wide the field of history is, and how much historical work needs to be done, even in a country with as short a history as that of New Zealand.

—Sandra Gorter

§ Geoff Rice and I held a Christmas gathering for PHANZA members and friends at Canterbury Museum. There are about 18 members in Canterbury, and we were pleased that around a dozen people attended, including a few colleagues from the University of Canterbury. The effects of the new drink-driving laws were evident, as not a great deal of wine or beer was consumed, but there was certainly plenty of conversation to be had. It was a good opportunity for old friends and colleagues to catch up and for some independent historians to meet up with others in the field. A few potential book projects were discussed, as were PHANZA's plans for a seminar session in Christchurch later this year.

—Marguerite Hill

Auckland symposium: professional historians accessing and working with information

PHANZA will be holding a one-day symposium in Auckland, consisting of workshops on how historians can access and use information in their work. Further details of the programme will be available soon on the PHANZA website.

§ **Venue:** Torpedo Bay Navy Museum, 64 King Edward Parade, Devonport, Auckland.

§ **Date:** Saturday 25 July 2015, 9:15 am – 5:30 pm.

§ **Early registration** is now open and limited to 40 places.

§ PHANZA members \$30,

non-members \$50.

§ Early registration before 30 June is recommended as places are limited. Registration for non-PHANZA members will be confirmed after 1 July.

§ Lunch and morning and afternoon tea are included in registration.

To register please e-mail Angela Lassig at angelalassig@gmail.com.

Jannelle Warren-Findley 1945–2015: public historian

The late American public historian Jannelle Warren-Findley had a significant impact on public history and heritage management in New Zealand

For over 20 years, Jannelle had been Associate Professor of History at Arizona State University, Phoenix, where she was co-director of the Graduate Program in Public History. She was an active member of the US National Council on Public History, serving as President for a time, and had also been a member of the Executive Board of the Organization of American Historians. PHANZA members Claudia Orange (with input from Jane Legget and Charlotte Macdonald) and Gavin McLean (with input from Mary O'Keefe and Michael Kelly) have provided these memories of Jannelle.



She was instantly a lively and much-liked colleague around the corridors, and made an impact on the students who took her course. This led, directly or indirectly, to several history students making careers in New Zealand's heritage sector.

New Zealand's public historians were saddened by the news of Jannelle Warren-Findley's death. It was as a Fulbright Senior Fellow that Jann came to New Zealand from July to December 1997. This was at the instigation of Professor David Hamer, who was interested in developing a postgraduate programme in Public History at Victoria University of Wellington. Jann taught a course in public history and advanced the cause of Public History as an academic subject at VUW. She was instantly a lively and much-liked colleague around the corridors, and made an impact on the students who took her course. This led, directly or indirectly, to several history students making careers in New Zealand's heritage sector. Jann was a very engaging character whose dynamism and energy were infectious.

During her 1997 Fulbright year, she established a strong network among the broad heritage and history communities around the country, becoming active in PHANZA as soon as she arrived. When she returned in 2000, bringing her son Benjamin with her again, she held the prestigious Ian Axford Fellowship in Public Policy, hosted in the History Group of the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. She produced a valuable report, *Human Heritage Management in New Zealand in the Year 2000 and Beyond* (2001). Her report promoted greater rigour in the historical content used in heritage interpretation at historic sites, buildings, heritage parks and

museums, comparing and contrasting with the experience in the USA. She was well qualified to carry out this assessment, having worked for some years in Washington, DC, with a cultural and environmental resource research firm.

Jann loved New Zealand and came back several times, always welcomed and always willing to make presentations about public history for different audiences in her wonderfully refreshing style. Particularly memorable was a seminar on her work on abandoned army bases as historic sites in the USA. Jann was equally welcoming to visitors from New Zealand to Arizona; a number of us enjoyed her hospitality and invitations to present seminars to her classes.

She wrote as well as she spoke, her scholarly articles covering a range of topics on presentation of historic and heritage sites, events and museums. She has left a cohort of friends among colleagues and students who enjoyed and still draw on the enthusiasms and ideas shared so generously. One or two years ago, when a PHANZA member linked up with one of her students who had completed an internship in New Zealand, the student's zest for history and for telling critical and engaging stories in a variety of arenas was obvious. Jann's work was carrying on into the next generation.

—Claudia Orange (with Charlotte Macdonald and Jane Legget)

'Sheep have agency.' I'll never forget that line from Janelle Warren-Findley, the bubbly public historian who spent a very busy year as the 2000 Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellow in Public Policy. In her report, *Human Heritage Management in New Zealand in the Year 2000 and Beyond*, which won her the Michael Robinson Award of the National Council on Public History, Jann observed that:

in the South Island, sheep have agency. The stories told by tour bus drivers . . . have little to do with the humans who explored, immigrated, farmed, mined, fished, fought, raised families, buried their dead and founded communities . . . But there was a good deal of discussion about the sheep, who overgrazed and did environmental damage and had to be removed, at the government's decree.

In other words, our heritage sites tended to skip over much of the history that had happened there. This was music to the ears of historians weary of the heritage discourse being dominated by talk about fabric, dates, architects and engineers, but not by the stories of the people who lived, worked and died there.

Jann came to us with a strong background in public history. She taught history at Arizona State University for two decades but had always mixed her academic duties with encouraging public history, both in the USA and overseas in fellowships and appointments that took her from Europe to China and Australasia. She'd taught an undergraduate paper in public history at VUW in 1997, so she and son Benjamin were used to our ways (although she later confessed that she initially thought that she had landed in a same-sex super society - many Kiwis introduced their spouses as 'my partner', a term largely confined to the LGBT community back home).

During her fellowship, Jann met an enormous range of academics, historians, museologists, archaeologists, planners and central and local government officials. She travelled the country, mastered the DOctionary (the Department of Conservation's mind-numbing list of jargon and abbreviations) and

Sometimes it takes a foreigner to shed some light where it's needed. Janelle Warren-Findley was an outsider who felt right at home in New Zealand and not only shared her expertise generously, but also allowed us to see history and heritage through a different prism.

made a whole bunch of friends, as she would have said.

A meal or a session with Jann was always a delight. 'If I was to think of one word to describe her, it would be exuberance - a sense of barely suppressed energy and enthusiasm', archaeologist Mary O'Keeffe recalls. 'I remember animated discussions with her, and her delight in new ideas, new suggestions, new ways of looking at things.' Michael Kelly agrees: 'Sometimes it takes a foreigner to shed some light where it's needed. Janelle Warren-Findley was an outsider who felt right at home in New Zealand and not only shared her expertise generously, but also allowed us to see history and heritage through a different prism.'

Just days before she died, the National Council on Public History awarded Jann the Robert Kelley Memorial Award. The award is named after a founder of the US public history movement and honours distinguished and outstanding achievements in making history relevant to the community.

—Gavin McLean

Janelle Warren-Findley's 2001 report on heritage management in New Zealand can be found at www.fulbright.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/axford2000_warren-findley.pdf.



Te Ātiawa elder Sir Ralph Love at a Waitangi Tribunal hearing, photographed ca 26 March 1991 by *Evening Post* staff photographer Jon Hargest. Ref: EP/1991/0842/7A, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.

Treaty Settlement Stories

Murray Hemi tells us about the Ministry for Culture and Heritage's Treaty Settlement Stories project, for which he is project leader

Historical Treaty of Waitangi settlements are part of modern life in New Zealand and are an internationally-unique aspect of this country. Yet they are relatively recent features of our national

landscape. So, how have we been able – as two peoples, one nation – to navigate this difficult terrain? What effect have Treaty settlements had on our local, regional and national identities?

The Treaty Settlement Stories project (a working title only) aims to respond to these questions by researching and presenting settlement information as well as recording and compiling a range of oral history accounts. The project will provide ready access to engaging, fresh and comprehensive material on Treaty settlements (including images, video footage and accurate and concise information).

In the past, public discussions of the Treaty of Waitangi and Treaty settlements have elicited strong emotions and, at times, very entrenched viewpoints. These discussions have not been well served by selective, limited or inaccurate information – something this project aims to address. The project will support New Zealanders to develop their own personal, well-rounded and informed understandings of Treaty settlements and Treaty relationships. Building on the success of Te Ara (the online Encyclopedia of New Zealand), the project aims to extend access to public history by the use of a variety of digital media, including new and emerging forms of digital publication.

The project will describe the background and Treaty history of each settlement region. It will also provide detailed information on each settlement agreement, including the negotiation and settlement outcomes, and developments since settlement. With this background, the project will also have available oral history interviews comprising a range of viewpoints on the impacts of settlement at a local, regional and national level.

The interviews will provide an opportunity for key participants in each settlement process to relate their own unique experiences and perspectives on Treaty

settlement negotiations and post-settlement development. Some viewpoints will be complementary while others will be contested. The differing viewpoints will provide an edge to the project while allowing readers to form their own views and insights about settlements. The oral history interviews will include input from government, iwi and community perspectives.

Some 25 research themes will be covered by the project, with subjects ranging from Māori responses and protest, Treaty commemorations, the evolution of New Zealand national identity, ownership or management of natural resources, sovereignty and Treaty case law.

A third key aspect of the project is an extensive collection of biographies of individuals who have developed, participated in and contributed to New Zealand's settlement process. Both supporters and opponents of the settlement approach will be included. These multiple viewpoints will provide future New Zealand generations with a broad historical account of the settlement process (who, how, what and why), including the tensions and compromises involved in reaching agreements and embedding settlement outcomes.

The Treaty Settlement Stories project will provide a single source of information on all aspects of Treaty settlements and will also be a link to other information sources. It is expected that a range of audience needs will be met. Information will be delivered in a layered fashion, allowing readers to access brief outlines or, if they choose, increasingly detailed information.

The project has been through several years of testing and development and is expected to begin full production in June 2015.

Enhanced coordination of funding for history

Creative New Zealand has recently reviewed its funding programmes, priorities and initiatives for New Zealand literature

During the review it became apparent that both the New Zealand History Research Trust (administered by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage) and Creative New Zealand fund and support the research, writing and publishing of New Zealand history.

The Trust offers financial assistance to people carrying out projects that will significantly enhance understanding of New Zealand's past. In 2014-15 the Trust has offered grants totalling \$138,000, including \$118,000 in writing grants and \$20,000 in publishing grants.

In 2013-14 Creative New Zealand provided \$68,000 in support of history works, with \$7,500 granted for the writing of a work and \$60,500 for publishing grants.

In recent years a number of applicants have sought funding both from the Trust and from Creative New Zealand. In some cases, both agencies have provided funding for the same project.

The Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Creative New Zealand have agreed that in future:

✦ the NZ History Research Trust will focus on supporting the

research and writing of New Zealand histories;

✦ Creative New Zealand will focus its support on the publishing of New Zealand histories; and

✦ Ministry and Creative New Zealand staff will share information about history funding applications they have received and coordinate their advice.

In future, funding requests to support the research and writing of works that will significantly enhance the understanding of New Zealand's past should be directed to the New Zealand History Research Trust. Funding requests to support the publishing of high-quality history writing should be directed to Creative New Zealand.

As a result of the Creative New Zealand review of literature, the Arts Council has also agreed to:

✦ make publishing proposals from individual writers eligible for funding as well as those from publishing companies and collectives; and

✦ increase the publishing subsidies available for literature in te reo Māori or Pasifika languages, non-fiction work (including histories) and publications about specific artforms.

Dunedin dialogues: Marsden bicentenary symposium

Paul Diamond reports on a multi-disciplinary symposium held as part of the commemorations of the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the Rev. Samuel Marsden in Aotearoa. The encounters between Marsden, other missionaries and Māori were the particular focus of the symposium, organised alongside an exhibition and the launch of an online archive, 7-8 November 2014.

Since it was established in 2012, Otago University's Centre for Research on Colonial Culture (CROCC) has been fostering discussion across disciplines to understand colonialism and its legacies. The research centre brings researchers together in different ways, including conferences, symposia, online via its website (<https://blogs.otago.ac.nz/crocc>), and in publications. In November 2014, CROCC joined forces with the Hocken Collections and the University of Otago, to host 'Dialogues: Exploring the Drama of Early Missionary Encounters'.

The day before the symposium, the University launched the Marsden Online Archive (<https://marsdenarchive.otago.ac.nz>), giving access to digitised copies of Marsden's letters and journals, as well as the papers of other early New Zealand missionaries, together with associated transcripts created by retired Associate Professor Gordon Parsonson. Some of the original archives were on display in *Whakapono: Faith and Foundations*, an exhibition at the Hocken Collections gallery which opened the same day as the online archive launch.

The symposium brought together historians, archivists, curators, archaeologists, librarians and other researchers, who considered different examples of historical evidence, and what it said about the early Māori-missionary encounters. The first session, by Library staff Cate Bardwell and Charlotte Brown, was about the online archive – how it works, and what can be found in it. For example, correspondence documenting Thomas Kendall's long and involved quest to order new wigs from London – putting James Barry's famous portrait of the missionary and the chiefs Hongi and Waikato in a new light.

'Without collecting there would be no scholarship', Donald Kerr reminded the symposium in his session about how Dr Hocken ('a teacher of the first order') obtained the papers of Marsden and other missionaries. The extent and coverage of these papers was the subject of a presentation by Anna Blackman from Hocken Collections, who noted the almost

complete absence of women, children and European servants.

Of course, historical evidence isn't limited to archives, and material culture is also an important source. The sites of early missionary settlements have been the focus of fieldwork by Otago University archaeologists, led by Ian Smith and Angela Middleton. Ian spoke about the archaeology of the mission at Hohi Bay (also known as Oihi Bay), and how

Correspondence documenting Thomas Kendall's long and involved quest to order new wigs from London puts James Barry's famous portrait of the missionary and the chiefs Hongi and Waikato in a new light.

the discipline 'materialises the past'. *Pēwhairangi*, Angela Middleton's book about the Bay of Islands Missions and Māori 1814-1845, was launched during the symposium. Angela spoke about one of the lesser-known characters in the story of the missions – Hariata, daughter of Hongi Hika and Turikatuku, and wife of Hone Heke. Auckland Museum Curators Chanel Clarke and Rose Young told the symposium about some of the objects left behind from the early missionary-Māori encounters, and how the significance of these items changes over time. For example, an item such as a baptismal bowl can be used to illustrate an idea, or function as a signifier of an event.

Lachy Paterson and I gave presentations looking at Māori language over the period the missionaries and Māori encountered each other. Lachy looked at Thomas Kendall's efforts to create an orthography (spelling system) for te reo Māori. I talked about a lexicon recently purchased by the Turnbull Library, used by the Wesleyan Missionary James Buller in



James Barry: The Rev Thomas Kendall and the chiefs Hongi and Waikato, 1820.
Ref: G-618, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.

the Hokianga in the 1830s. The history of the initial Wesleyan Mission in Whangaroa was the topic of Allan Davidson's presentation. Allan's fellow religious historians, Peter Lineham and John Stenhouse, illuminated other aspects of missionary history further south: the sacking of the Church Missionary Society's Matamata Mission station in 1836 and Octavius Hadfield – a controversial figure in his own time, and afterwards. The central event of the 200th anniversary commemorations, Marsden's service at Hoho Bay on Christmas Day 1814, was the subject of the presentation by Alison Jones and Kuni Jenkins. In particular, they sought to encourage thinking about the Māori side of the story, and what Māori taught Pākehā.

Over the two days, the presentations and conversations sparked connections between participants, who were also able to alert each other to evidence from their own areas. In the final session, one of the symposium organisers, Tony Ballantyne, outlined how he'd used the Marsden Online Archive.

Tony also considered how the 'complex and messy set of processes' underlying historical research depend on archives, and what's changed with the advent of databases like the Marsden archive. While digital humanities has democratised research, the issues with the archive, such as gaps, remain. The core skills of historical research haven't been supplanted, and digital humanities is transformative, rather than revolutionary. Tony identified things historians are grappling with as part of this process: data management; the relationship between text and context; and generating an argument, as historians constantly ask new questions of the archive. Text databases make it possible to test broad generalisations with word searches, and allow the use of digital tools, such as Topic Modelling, as a way to map a discourse. For another perspective on the symposium and related events see Lachy Paterson's post on the CROCC blog (<https://blogs.otago.ac.nz/crocc/2014/11/09/704>).

Alexander Turnbull Library update

Rachel Esson of the Alexander Turnbull Library provides an update on some recent Turnbull activities

Oral History activities

The Alexander Turnbull Library undertook an assessment of its Oral History activities in 2013. The resulting suggestions included making our oral history collections catalogue available online. Earlier this year the catalogue became available online directly via TAPUHI and will shortly be able to be accessed via our other online channels.

Another key result of the assessment was the suggestion to renew the focus of the library's Oral History training services, exploring their continued relevance and effectiveness. We will be gathering information and feedback on oral history training needs and offerings in New Zealand. Shortly we plan to send out two online surveys. One survey will ask oral history practitioners for their input, while the other will ask training providers about their courses and experience. We would appreciate your responses to the relevant surveys, and your help in ensuring that anyone who may be interested knows about the surveys.

Content management system replacement

We have commenced the implementation phase to replace TAPUHI, our content management system. The successful vendor is KE Software and the systems selected are EMu and IMu. The product is used to manage archival and museum collections in more than 400 institutions in 13 countries, including the University of Melbourne Archives,

Leeds University Library and Te Papa Tongarewa. IMu is used to distribute the data held within EMu via the Internet.

Implementation is expected to be completed by the end of 2015. Rachel Esson, Associate Chief Librarian (Research Collections), will lead this phase of the project, and library staff will be involved in a range of ways, including business process development and testing.

Staffing

The Turnbull's Curator of Rare Books and Fine Printing, Ruth Lightbourne, and the Curator of Drawings, Paintings and Prints, Marian Minson, will be retiring at the end of June and July respectively. Dr Lightbourne has been a strong advocate for the collection through exhibitions, publishing, tertiary seminars and the use of social media (<http://turnbullrarebooks.tumblr.com>). Ms Minson has worked for the Turnbull for 36 years, during which time the drawings, paintings and prints collection has developed significantly under her expert eye.

The library acknowledges the fine contributions of both curators, and wishes them well in their retirements. Recruitment for permanent replacements in the curatorial area is expected to commence in April, with the aim of achieving a full complement of curatorial staff by July/August.

Exhibitions

The Turnbull Gallery continues to provide an excellent platform for the presentation of staff research.

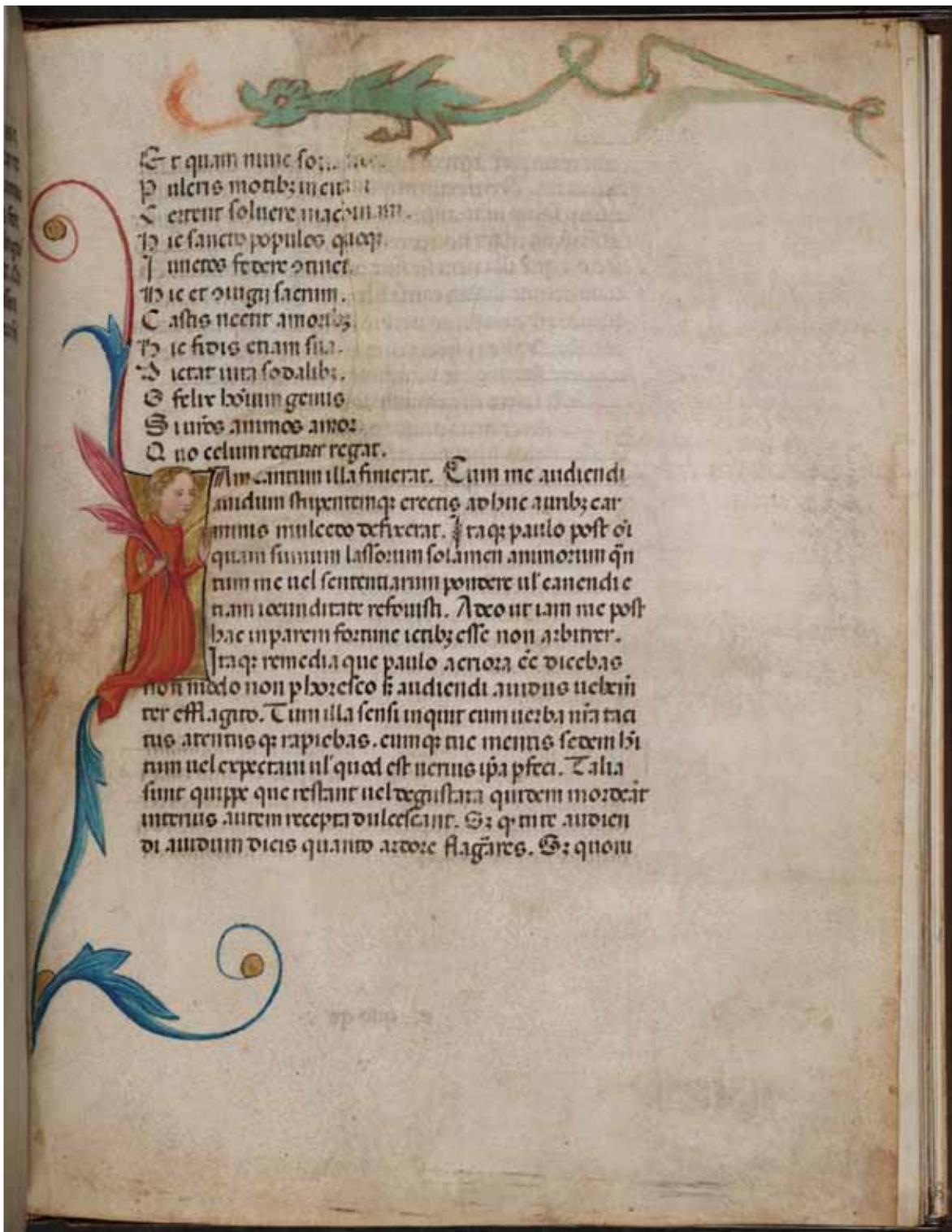
A Child's War ran between 24 November and 27 February. The show was curated by Mary Skarott, Research Librarian, Children's Literature, and explored the impact of World War I on the lives of New Zealand children. Two thousand visits were recorded on the gallery door counter. The current exhibition, *The Book Beautiful*, curated by Rare Books Curator Dr Ruth Lightbourne, opened on 2 March, and presents a selection of some of the library's most exquisite publications. The show runs until 22 May.

Later this year, two exhibitions are scheduled which are a departure from the library's usual approach to curation. The first of these is *Tell Tales*, featuring artists' responses to Turnbull collection items. New works are being created by highly-regarded artists Maureen Lander, Christine Hell-yar and Jo Torr. *Tell Tales* will run from 25 May until 14 August.

The other exhibition is a show curated by Museum & Heritage Studies students as part of their course work. Students will work with library curators to mine the collections around a particular theme. This exhibition will have a short run from 17 August to 11 September.

Turnbull Library Record

The 2015 music-themed issue of *Turnbull Library Record*, published in association with the Friends of the Turnbull Library, is currently in production and expected to be distributed in June. The issue commemorates the centenary of composer Douglas Lilburn's birth,



A book featured in *The Book Beautiful* exhibition: Anicius Manlius Torquatus Severinus Boethius, ca 480-524, *Consolatio Philosophiae* (*Consolation of Philosophy*), first page of Book III with historiated initial. Ref: MSR-19-f024r, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.

and features an essay from former Lilburn Fellow, Dr Philip Norman, as well as short, descriptive essays from the library's music specialists.

Planning is under way for the 2016 issue, which will be a miscellany. Contributions that have not been previously published are welcome and, before acceptance, will be independently refereed. Articles or pictorial

essays should be between 2,000 and 5,000 words. They should be written in a lively and accessible manner, with a scholarly underpinning. The deadline for the submission of papers is 1 September 2015.

For more information, to propose an idea, or to submit a paper, please contact the Managing Editor, Fiona Oliver: fiona.oliver@dia.govt.nz.

We are interested in your feedback and questions. Please don't hesitate to contact the Library: alexander.turnbull-library@dia.govt.nz.

Books that made a difference

Margaret Pointer recalls a book whose insights into New Zealand history proved a revelation

The book that had the biggest impact on my personal perspective on history still sits in pride of place on our bookshelf. It was published in 1977 and I bought it in hardback for \$12.95. I took it away on a camping holiday to the Bay of Islands in the summer of '77 and I still remember my sense of wonder and amazement as I read it.

The book was Michael King's *Te Puea* and it was a revelation to me. How could I have studied history right through high school, majored in history and completed an honours degree without ever knowing this person existed? Furthermore, this person was a New Zealander, female and Māori.

Te Puea began me on my own exploration of New Zealand history. It led me into World War I, and the issue of Māori enlistment, opposition in the Waikato, led by Te Puea, to the conscription of young Māori men, and the passive resistance movement this formidable woman led against the government. It opened my eyes to the devastating impact of the 1918 influenza epidemic on poor Māori communities. It taught me about the Kingitanga movement and the development of the great marae at Turangawaewae. It helped me understand the need to redress the grievances caused by widespread land confiscations in the nineteenth century.

It was not the first book on New Zealand history I had read. I had been given Sinclair's *History of New Zealand* as a school prize one year. But *Te Puea* was different. It had all the elements of a good biography, the personal and the public persona, the joys and the sorrows, the highs and the lows. It showed a Māori woman standing up to the men in her own society and in Pākehā society, right to the top. It showed what someone of principle, of conviction and of vision, but also of humility, could achieve against the odds.

When I later became interested in the involvement of Pacific Islanders within the Māori Contingent during World War I, I went immediately to my copy of *Te Puea* and I read again the chapter on her opposition to involvement by young Māori. I sourced Paul O'Connor's paper on the recruitment of Māori soldiers, which King acknowledged as his main



Te Kirihaehae Te Puea Herangi. Price, William Archer, 1866–1948. Collection of post card negatives. Ref: 1/2-001920-G. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.

source for the chapter. In understanding the reasons for opposition to Māori enlistment I came to understand why the offer of troops from Niue and the Cook Islands was finally accepted by Maui Pomare, chairman of the Native Contingent committee.

As we commemorate the centenary of World War I, I think it would be timely to revisit Michael King's *Te Puea* and remind ourselves that some of the most heroic deeds of that time did not necessarily involve foreign battlefields. A Māori woman in the Waikato speaking out against involvement by the young men of her community in a foreign war would make a fine role model for us today.