Phanzine

Newsletter of the Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa
Vol. 22, No. 1, April 2016, ISSN 1173 4124
www.phanza.org.nz

Editorial

Massey University, Palmerston North. Whites Aviation Ltd. Ref: WA-72466-F. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.

An introduction to the new co-editors of *Phanzine*: Margaret Tennant is a Palmerston North-based member of the PHANZA executive, and is in the happy position of being retired from an academic position, and of having finished, in 2015, her history of the New Zealand Red Cross, *Across the Street, Across the World: A History of the Red Cross in New Zealand 1915–2015*. Despite this, she is finding herself busy in different ways from her past existence, and is currently starting a project to bring university historians and community historians together to write a new thematic history of Palmerston North.

Marguerite Hill is the other new co-editor for *Phanzine*. She has co-edited *Phanzine* previously and has also been the PHANZA secretary. Marguerite is a Human History Curator at Canterbury Museum, dealing with a collection of over 2.3 million objects and enjoying researching some of them. Marguerite was previously a Resources Researcher for Te Ara – Encyclopedia of New Zealand.

The committee also welcomes back Imelda Bargas, who has been co-opted onto the committee. Imelda has been both PHANZA president and secretary yet somehow we've enticed her back as a committee member. Imelda is Digital Content Lead/Senior Historian, Research and Publishing Group at the Ministry for Culture and Heritage.

PHANZA President Ewan Morris left New Zealand in late March for Scotland, where he will be spending a year as a visiting scholar at the University of Edinburgh, but will stay on as President until the 2016 AGM.

He will continue to participate in the business of the PHANZA committee, and to oversee the constitution review, via email. The committee wishes him well in his travels.

INSIDE

1 Editorial
2 Climate change and heritage
4 A breadth of achievement
5 News from the North
6 News from the South
7 Centenary history of WWI
8 NZHA conference review
9 Making women visible
10 Sport and leisure up north
12 PHANZA news

PHANZA
PO BOX 1904, THORNDON, WELLINGTON

Climate change and heritage

Michael Kelly looks at how our changing climate will affect historic heritage.

Climate change is a given for most people with access to information, if you discount Republicans in the United States and a scattering of sceptics who prefer feelings over facts. According to NASA analysis, global temperatures leapt in February this year an average (and an alarming) 1.35 degrees above the norm for the 1951–1980 period.

As the world is fast finding out, acknowledging the reality of climate change is one thing, doing something about it is another challenge altogether. And it's not as if we haven't had a long time to get used to the concept. The first public acknowledgment of the impact of industrial-era burning was in 1896, when Swedish chemist Svante Arrhenius posited that it would enhance the natural greenhouse effect by a couple of degrees. He was pretty much spot on.

Climate change is a more apt descriptor than global warming because warming is only part of the story. But predicting general climatic changes is probably as tricky as a 10-day forecast. There will be change, but what will it look like and how will it affect everyday life?

Heritage is vulnerable to climate change, even if we can't predict the specifics of that change with total certainty. As New Zealand's climate warms, the consequences manifest themselves in a variety of ways. Some of the most obvious involve the direct effects of warming. Cape Defiance Hut (1912) once sat alongside the Franz Josef Glacier. As the glacier receded during the 20th century, instability on the adjacent moraine walls increased. So the historic hut was re-sited, firstly in 1936 and then again in 1978, when it was removed altogether and put on public display at DOC's Franz Josef Visitor Centre. The equally celebrated Hooker Hut (1910) has had to be moved no fewer than four times from the edge of the Hooker Glacier, mostly because of glacial retreat. Today it is in storage in Twizel awaiting a new location.

Already, coastal archaeological sites, including pa and urupa, have succumbed to the effects of the sea, but this is likely to increase with rising sea levels and more frequent and powerful storm surges. There are many archaeological sites along our coastline, and as already demonstrated here and in many other parts of the world, it's nigh on impossible to stop coastal erosion.

New Zealand is already a windy country by international standards, but with bigger storms come higher winds, and many heritage buildings, particularly our timber-built structures, are susceptible to high winds. It puts a premium on sound maintenance, which is not something that all New Zealand building owners are necessarily attuned to. Undertaking regular maintenance is stressed to building owners time and again in conservation plans.

Floods are regular events in New Zealand and they are becoming more frequent and more extreme. Heritage of all types is vulnerable to flooding, none more so than our rich heritage of timber buildings. Flooding is also linked to sea-level rise. The floods of South Dunedin in 2015 highlighted the fact that some parts of the city are only 30 cm above sea level, which, among other things, makes clearing standing water extremely problematic. On top of that, the Otago Regional Council's sea-level gauge at Green Island, which was installed in 2002, shows that the sea-level is rising at an alarming rate of 3.3mm per annum.

Doing nothing about sea-level rise is simply not an option in the short-term because we can't give up the central business districts of many of our major centres. In most cases there is literally nowhere else to move those city centres to. These are the areas that also contain so much of our built heritage. So we will be forced to build walls or barriers to try and keep the water out, additional pumping facilities to

The impact of changes in climate could lead to different threats to heritage, for example, new airborne pests that attack timber, or harsher weather degrading structures more quickly.

Flooding in Tainui Street, Dunedin, 1917. Ref: Dunedin City Council Archives, Photo 84-2

remove water, and bigger and more efficient drainage systems. Even this might not be enough to save some of our lower lying urban areas.

Climate change might have more subtle impacts. As the century wears on, Wellington's climate may, for instance, increasingly resemble Auckland's, with a consequential rise in humidity. Auckland's climate may become sub-tropical. The impact of changes in climate could lead to different threats to heritage, for example, new airborne pests that attack timber, or harsher weather degrading structures more quickly. If parts of New Zealand become even dryer during summers, then we may see a fire season like the one we have just had. Fires can have a devastating impact on heritage, particularly old timber buildings.

Humans are responsible for climate change, but we also hold the responsibility for its mitigation in our hands. ICCROM, the Rome-based, inter-governmental International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, has made the response to climate change one of its top priorities. It sees the work to protect and conserve

Flooding in South Dunedin June 2015. Photo: Ian Telfer, RNZ

vulnerable heritage as an opportunity not only to save the heritage itself but to build more resilient communities, using collaboration and learning as a way of maintaining and enhancing social cohesion. Such an approach would see heritage valued as a key component of our communities and its preservation become a matter of course, along with all the other aspects of our environment that we value.

A breadth of achievement

Claudia Orange pays tribute to Bill Oliver, who died in Wellington in September 2015.

WILLIAM HOSKING OLIVER 1925–2015
Emeritus Professor of History

For over 50 years Bill Oliver was one of New Zealand's most influential historians. Through his own work, which was wide-ranging, and as a promoter of excellence in the work of colleagues and younger historians, he encouraged the highest quality of historical scholarship. The grandfather of New Zealand history, he was one of that generation of historians who were at the cutting edge of this country's history. But his life spanned many more commitments in the intellectual life of our country.

Bill Oliver as Professor of History at Massey University, 1967. Photo: Massey University Archives

Bill's history career started as a junior lecturer (1948–51) at Victoria University and he left with a Masters degree. This was followed by a stretch in the early 1950s at Oxford's Balliol and Nuffield Colleges and a DPhil. on British trade union history. Returning to New Zealand, Bill lectured in history, first at the University of Canterbury (1955–59) and then at Victoria University (1960–63). But it was establishing and developing a new department of history at Massey University that in his own estimation stood as the most challenging period of his career (1964–1983). As Professor and Head of Department, and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities (1964–67), he served on the University's Council and on the University Grants Committee (1973–77).

Through the Massey years, broken only by a year at the University of Alberta in Canada, Bill was highly productive as a published historian, biographer and poet, renowned for his scholarship in all three. In 1960 *The Story of New Zealand* was published; it presented a view of New Zealand that opened up social and cultural avenues of interest and research for students. At the same time he was also making a mark as editor of the journal *Comment* (1977–81) (resuming an earlier commitment (1958–63)); and then began shaping a major contribution to New Zealand history by commencing in 1978 as editor (with B R Williams) of the *Oxford History of New Zealand* (1981).

In 1983, after nearly 20 years at Massey, Bill moved to Wellington to apply his editorial and administrative skills as General Editor of the *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, a new project within the Department of Internal Affairs. At that time it was the biggest public history project of its kind to be undertaken, in terms of the scale of its concept and the range of its contributors. He was chosen because he was considered the historian best qualified to secure much needed co-operation from the historical profession and for his capacity to train inexperienced writers and editors. Bill conceptualised the *Dictionary* as a composite picture of New Zealanders – a balance of occupations, regions, gender, ethnic identity and achievements. This design for the series of five volumes in English, with five companion volumes in Māori, placed the *Dictionary* at the leading edge of the world's biographical dictionaries. The first volume won the Goodman Fielder Wattie best book of the year award in 1991.

As Consulting Editor, from 1990 to 2000, Bill's editorial and historical expertise is evident in every essay in the series. Given the one thousand and more writers for the *Dictionary*, this crafting of historical

and literary expertise created a remarkable body of writers which included academics and history enthusiasts from wide and varied circles of activity and occupation. The 3,000 essays are now online, with images added where possible, and are part of Te Ara, the online Encyclopedia of New Zealand.

Through all these years, Bill was an influential contributor to the broad intellectual life of the nation. He had that special capacity to connect with people which in turn created a broad network of contacts. He continued to encourage historical writing – as a supervisor of research, as an editor for a variety of publications, as a thesis examiner and publishers' reader, and as critical reviewer of publications. In the 1980s he was foundation board chairman of the Stout Centre. In the 1990s he became involved in the Waitangi Tribunal process through submissions and assessments of work, and also through the Crown Forestry Rental Trust Research Advisory Committee.

His stature as an historian was recognised in 1990 when he was appointed a CBE and received an honorary DLitt. from Wellington's Victoria University. Such honours were significant public acknowledgement of decades of achievements and were unsought rewards. Not so visible, but of greater value and more to be celebrated, are the many historians, spanning more than one generation, who express their debt to Bill Oliver for the unique blend of quiet, informed and persuasive guidance (always spiced with gentle humour) that he so generously gave, often in fields of social and cultural history in which he was so formative a factor.

Few can equal this breadth of achievements by a kaumatua of historians – Bill Oliver – writer, poet and man of letters.

Key publications

The Story of New Zealand (1960)

Oxford History of New Zealand (editor, 1980)

James K Baxter: A Portrait (1983)

Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, vol 1 (general editor, 1990)

Looking for the Phoenix (2002)

Poems 1946–2005 (2005)

News from the North

¶ A few Auckland area PHANZA members attended the New Zealand Historical Association conference in Christchurch from 2 to 4 December 2015, and PHANZA members and supporters later celebrated Christmas at a downtown Auckland bar on the 9th.

¶ Some PHANZA members regularly participate in the annual Auckland Heritage Festival and the overall theme for the 2016 Festival has recently been released. It is 'Now and then – the changing face of Auckland', with two sub-themes:

- Learning and Encouragement, with events that are designed to up-skill and inform the local community and encourage greater understanding of our heritage through workshops and lectures.
- Celebrating our Heritage, with events that celebrate Auckland's distinct built, cultural and natural heritage.

The festival stretches from Saturday 24 September to Sunday 9 October 2016, coinciding with the school holidays, and it is hoped this timing will attract more families with children. The organisers also intend to encourage more events from groups outside of central Auckland.

¶ The Heritage Unit of Auckland Council now has a new team, the Māori Heritage team, and the Heritage Unit is currently involved in surveying parts of Tawaharanui and the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area.

¶ Auckland Council's Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan hearings on heritage topics are complete, but work is ongoing for heritage input into wider planning topics such as zoning and precincts.

¶ An Earthquake Prone Buildings guidance is soon to be launched by the Waitematā Local Board (which covers the Central Business District of Auckland). This will offer a simplified version of the denser, more technical guidance on offer from the New Zealand Government and the New Zealand Society of Earthquake Engineering. It will use flowcharts, diagrams, and illustrations to deliver detailed information about the assessment and retrofit design of unreinforced masonry buildings, focussing on Auckland's seismic demands. It also includes indicative costing models for both detailed assessment and retrofit, derived from data collected from retrofits across Auckland.

— *David Verran*

'Tangle' at Christchurch Art Gallery – an interactive artwork made by Christchurch children, February 2016. Photo: Christchurch City Libraries. Creative Commons Licence: Attribution, Non-Commercial, Share-Alike.

News from the South

Last year I was involved with helping organise the New Zealand Historical Association conference along with Sarah Murray (Canterbury Museum), Lyndon Fraser and Katie Pickles (both University of Canterbury) and Greg Ryan (Lincoln University). The conference was held at the University of Canterbury in the midst of some very hot Canterbury weather - see my conference review in this issue of Phanzine for further details. Conference planning took up a lot of my time, so I hope to organise a get together for Canterbury PHANZA members now that my calendar is a bit clearer.

The re-opening of the Christchurch Art Gallery was a significant event for Christchurch. The gallery reopened on 19 December, reinvigorating the city's heritage precinct. The majority of the gallery is open and there is a strong showing of historical and contemporary art on the walls. Many collection favourites are back on display, as well as new works collected while the gallery has been closed. I went along on the opening day and it was lovely to watch people hunting for their favourite works as well as responding to new ones.

The Canterbury Cultural Collections Recovery Centre (CCCRC) at the Air Force Museum has closed. It opened in 2013 as a secure, centralised storage and workshop facility for some of the many cultural and heritage institutions which no longer had buildings to house their collections. The institutions housing their material there were as diverse as Ngāi Tahu, the Canterbury Rugby Football Union Historical Trust, the Anglican Archives and Lyttelton Museum. The various collections have now been dispersed: some will go to new facilities while others have been temporarily moved to other parts of the Air Force Museum campus at Wigram.

The future of the Christ Church Cathedral (and to a large extent, Cathedral Square) is still undecided, although government mediator Miriam Dean QC has released her findings on the options for the Cathedral. The report has attempted to find common ground between the various groups. Discussion will continue with further announcements on the future of the building expected in April 2016.

— Marguerite Hill, Canterbury Representative

Centenary History of New Zealand and the First World War

An update for PHANZA members

A number of PHANZA members are, or have been, involved in writing for the Centenary History of the First World War programme – most notably John Crawford, Imelda Bargas, Tim Shoebridge, Gavin McLean and Ian McGibbon, while another member, Jock Phillips, is preparing an update of his earlier book on war memorials with support from the Ministry for Culture and Heritage.

The Ministry is one of four partnering bodies associated with the project, and the majority of volumes already issued were completed under its supervision. They are:

- Gavin McLean, *The White Ships. New Zealand's First World War Hospital Ships* (2013);
- Damien Fenton with Gavin McLean, Caroline Lord and Tim Shoebridge, *New Zealand and the First World War* (2013)
- Imelda Bargas and Tim Shoebridge, *New Zealand's First World War Heritage* (2015).

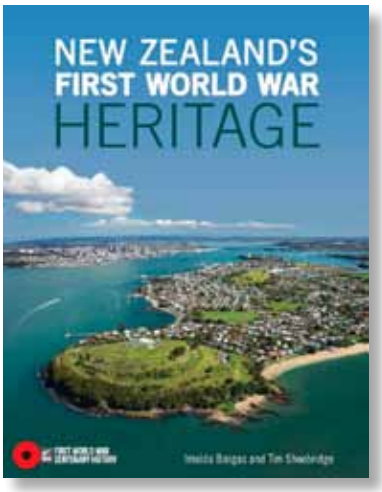
Also nearing completion under the Ministry's oversight are Ian McGibbon's *The Western Front*, due for publication in September 2016, Monty Soutar's *Māori and the First World War* (2017) and Gavin McLean's *New Zealand and the First World War and Sea*, scheduled for 2018. Associated Ministry projects include a subsite of NZHistory.net.nz, Firstworldwar.govt.nz; Harry Ricketts' and Gavin McLean's edited collection, *The Penguin Book of New Zealand War Writing*, which was published in October 2015; Nga Tapuwae Heritage Trails; and the 'Great War Stories' multimedia project.

The other major player in the series is Massey University. Via the Massey Foundation it has received funding from Lotteries and the Auckland War Memorial Museum for a volume on the home front, which is being written by Massey staff member James Watson; and from Lotteries for a volume on the medical history of the First World War. Anna Rogers was recently appointed to write this volume. Under the Massey umbrella also comes Damien Fenton's volume on New Zealand's war against the Ottoman Turks, another recipient of Lotteries funding as well as smaller amounts of support from the Navy Museum and private donors. Massey staff member Adam Claasen is working on the volume relating to New Zealand and the air war, and David Littlewood, James Watson and John Crawford have edited the proceedings of the 'Experience of a Lifetime' conference held in 2014. This will be published in April 2016 by the new Massey University Press.

Glyn Harper is overseeing the Massey side of the series, and his highly successful *Johnny Enzed: The New Zealand Soldier in the First World War 1914–1918* was launched in August 2015, with a reprint planned soon after.

The Defence Force is the third Centenary History partner, and here John Crawford is working on his history of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. The Royal New Zealand RSA is supporting the project but is not directly responsible for sponsoring or overseeing any volumes.

Others are also working on First World War projects outside this particular framework, most notably PHANZA member Jane Tolerton on New Zealand women's activities overseas during the War. Steven Loveridge is editing a collection on aspects of New Zealand society and the war effort, planned for publication in 2016 by Victoria University Press. No doubt we can expect many more contributions to the flow of books on the war before 2019!



Graeme Dunstall and Katie Pickles address an attentive group at the NZHA conference, December 2015. Photo: Suzanne Kelley

New Zealand Historical Association conference review

Along with Sarah Murray (Canterbury Museum), Lyndon Fraser and Katie Pickles (both University of Canterbury) and Greg Ryan (Lincoln University), I helped organise the New Zealand Historical Association conference held at University of Canterbury from 2 to 4 December 2015.

Finding a venue for large groups is currently tricky in Christchurch, so we were happy to find the facilities at Dovedale Campus. We were lucky with the sunny Canterbury weather which allowed people to spill out into the gardens and courtyard and enjoy picnic lunches and teas.

The theme of the conference was 'History Making a Difference' and we were thrilled to find that as well as academics and professional historians, we also had many attendees from museums, libraries, archives and heritage organisations, as well as educators. It was great to see the many ways that people are doing history today.

It was a big conference with numerous streams, and being an organiser, I had other responsibilities that kept me from attending everything I wanted to. However, I'd like to highlight a couple of sessions which stood out for me.

Keynote speaker Kate Darian-Smith's research project about press photography and the extent to which it helps shape a national culture reminded me of my previous work for Te Ara: Encyclopedia of New Zealand. The role that press photographers and, in New Zealand, the National Publicity Studios, had in shaping the way that people thought about themselves is a fascinating topic filled with questions about representation, gender, class, race, politics among others. I have spent many days rifling through the *Evening Post* photographic collection and many of the tropes, themes and concerns that Kate discussed can be found there as well. I look forward to the publication of her research.

The overflowing room clearly showed the interest in the Ngāi Tahu Research Centre Panel. Each of the speakers was fascinating but John Reid's work on what settlement really means to Ngāi Tahu today was especially meaningful. It connected beautifully to the conference theme of history – making a difference.

Another stand out was Joanna Cobley's audio-visual presentation about edible histories and intangible cultural heritage. Starting with a discussion of our national baked good such as Anzac and afghan biscuits and pavlova, the video presentation was a leaping off point for discussion of New Zealand history, international relations, gender, health and many other topics. Joanna even managed to find a cookbook that referenced ANZUS, an impressive feat. I hope that the presentation can be utilised for a wider audience.

We were also lucky to be the first audience for Ngā Taonga's new film about the First World War, *King & Country: New Zealand's First World War on Film*. The result of licencing from international film archives and significant conservation of film and sound archives held by Ngā Taonga, the presentation was a revelation. The clarity of the material was wonderful, allowing us to see individual faces and expressions, which always helps build a connection between the viewer and the viewed. The film will be available for screening during the period of First World War commemoration.

— *Marguerite Hill*

Making women visible

Margaret Tennant reports on a conference held in honour of Barbara Brookes.

Margaret Tennant, Phanzine co-editor, Charlotte Macdonald and Barbara Brookes took time at the Conference to reflect on the nearly 30 years since their edited collection, *Women in History: Essays on European Women in New Zealand*, was published. Photo: Lachy Paterson.

'Just like old times' was a statement heard from a 'senior' historian (rather surprised to find herself now regarded as 'senior'): 'Making Women Visible', held at Otago University, 15–17 February, was the first major conference dedicated to women's history in New Zealand since 1993. It was a conference in which participants ranged from those who led the way in rediscovering women's history in the 1960s and 1970s, through to postgraduates uncovering new dimensions of women's pasts, or looking at previously explored topics with a fresh eye. The more than 80 presentations and 150 attendees gave cheering evidence that women's history is still going strong in New Zealand.

The conference was organised by Angela Wanhalla and Otago-based colleagues to celebrate the launch of *A History of Women in New Zealand* by Barbara Brookes, and it commenced with Barbara's address on 'Past Caring: Women, Work and Emotion' prior to her book's launch. Barbara considered the 'changing landscapes of care' in the past and their implications for the present century. Fittingly, the book's publisher, Bridget Williams, a long-time supporter of quality women's history, was one of those featured in an opening forum on the following morning. She was joined by Sandra Coney and by broadcaster Megan Whelan in reviewing some of the outlets for women's history and the challenges they have faced, past and present.

Continuing a theme seen also at the NZHA conference, researchers based in institutional settings beyond the universities made a strong showing, including PHANZA members Louise Shaw, Bronwyn Labrum, Linda Tyler, Imelda Bargas and Marianne Schultz. There was a noticeable cluster of offerings from those in museums and galleries, reflecting both the Dunedin setting for the conference and an on-going interest in the history of women's creativity over time. The interdisciplinarity of the 1970s and 1980s also continued to be reflected in many of the offerings. There was a much stronger representation of papers on and by Maori and Pacifica women than would have been typical of earlier women's history conferences, however. Many of the papers reflected the 'making women visible' title of the conference, discovering or recovering 'lost' women writers, artists, police matrons, architects, asylum patients and others – women's history, it seems, still offers plenty of ground for first-time furrowing.

"The sense of a cross-generational enterprise was especially heartening. There is clearly still much postgraduate work going on."

Historians of women from Australia and Canada presented at the conference, reminding us of the transnational linkages and cross fertilisation of many of our studies. But it was the sense of a cross-generational enterprise that was especially heartening. Stand-alone women's history courses may have diminished in tertiary institutions, but there is clearly still much postgraduate work going on, supported by quality supervision and a sharing of experience. Long may this interest in women's history continue, and long may it continue to produce more of the rich and enduring collaborations – and friendships – all so very evident at the conference!

Royal tricyclists, colonial cracks, and more – sport and leisure up north

David Colquhoun 'gives it a go' at an International Sports and Leisure Colloquium

It was officially spring but it was hard to tell. The photograph was taken from the Oldham Library and Gallery doorway in early March. The Local Studies Centre, where I have spent many hours, is just off to the left. (David Colquhoun)

I'm writing this ensconced in the British Library. Right now I'm in the humanities reading room catching up on recent sports history. In the afternoons I'm down the corridor in the new newspaper room, tracking down English newspaper accounts of my 'colonial crack', New Zealand sportsman George Smith. I'm writing a book about him.

For those of you who have never heard of Smith he was, among other things, a star of the 1905 All Blacks, the fastest sprinter and hurdler in the British Empire, and a pioneering Australasian rugby league player, who ended his long career as a professional league player in Lancashire. That is where I have just been, up north – in Oldham actually, Smith's adopted home town. There is a chest of family papers up there, family memories, some helpful Oldham rugby history enthusiasts, and a very good local studies centre.

But that is not what this piece is about. On the way north I attended an International Sports and Leisure History Colloquium, to give its full title, at the Crewe campus of the Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), organised by Dr Dave Day and other MMU staff in association with the British Society of Sports History. There were about 30 participants – academics, students and independent researchers – from Europe, Canada, and me from New Zealand. The timing fitted in well with my Oldham visit, so I offered a short paper about Smith which was accepted.

I flag just a few highlights here. (You can find out more at www.cheshire.mmu.ac.uk/sport-history/colloquium2016.) From the unfamiliar (to me) leisure history end of the spectrum several papers appealed. Alison Goodrum, Professor in the Department of Apparel at MMU talked about the fashion for dude ranching in 1930s mid-west America, and its influence on self-consciously casual dress. The cultural influence of America was to the fore also in a lively paper by Bob Nicholson about, what he saw as, the neglected influence of American popular culture in late Victorian Britain. Canadian Janice Li made an interesting case for the Great Exhibition of 1851 as a key influence on the development of department stores. The exhibition's use of display and space, she suggested, 'transformed the world of consumption – silently expanding the female realm in public space'.

There were some great images presented. One I particularly liked is the Humber cyclist poster of 1903 reproduced here, from Dr Craig Horner's paper about lost histories of cycling. Too often, he argued, the dynamism of late nineteenth-century cycling has been ignored in motoring history. That is King Edward VII out front, dignified on his tricycle, followed by other members of the royal family, and a who's who of English aristocracy – clearly a Humber marketing coup.

Advertisement poster for Humber cycles, ca 1903. Ref: Craig Horner collection

My main interest was in those papers about sport in the decades before World War I, when sport began to take a modern shape. There were several, and my paper was one of them – a story of a working class athlete out on the edge of Empire, at a time when the dream of every colonial sportsman was to make that long voyage 'home' to take on Britain's best. For a player like Smith such tours meant recognition and opportunities just not possible in a small country. No-one else came close to his achievement of touring the British Isles three times, in three different sporting codes, and being successful every time. Eventually it gave him a living, and sporting exile.

So, how did it go? Not as well as it could have, unfortunately. One of the speaker options was a pecha kucha presentation. Pecha kucha is a quick-fire format comprising 20 slides, 20 seconds each, strictly six minutes 40 seconds in total. I rashly offered to give it a go. Too late, I realised I needed much more time. I insisted on a few minutes extra, which brought stern looks from the organisers, and no time for questions, but it was still too tight. Nevertheless there was some good feedback, and it was a useful rehearsal for a better presentation sometime back home.

A cartoon remembering George Smith (on the left) and the other "colonial" players (all Australians) who helped Oldham become a champion rugby league team before World War I. Ref: Oldham Evening Chronicle, 4 November 1922

PHANZA Executive Committee

Ewan Morris (President), Ministry for Culture and Heritage
president@phanza.org.nz

Karen Astwood (Secretary), IPENZ and freelance historian
secretary@phanza.org.nz

Eileen Barrett-Whitehead (Treasurer), freelance historian
treasurer@phanza.org.nz

Sandra Gorter, freelance historian

Marguerite Hill, Canterbury Museum

Paul Husbands, freelance historian

Lucy Mackintosh, freelance historian

Margaret Tennant, freelance historian

David Young, freelance historian

Imelda Bargas, Ministry for Culture and Heritage

Phanzine is published three times a year by the Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa.

You can contact us by mail: The Editor, *Phanzine*, PO Box 1904, Thorndon, Wellington

or at editor@phanza.org.nz

This issue was edited by Margaret Tennant and Marguerite Hill.

Disclaimer: Opinions expressed in *Phanzine* are not necessarily those of the editors. Photos and illustrations are credited where applicable.

© PHANZA 2016

PHANZA

Auckland members meeting

Our first Auckland meeting for the year took place on 9 March. It was held in the garden bar at One2one cafe in Ponsonby (121 Ponsonby Road), where John Adams spoke at 6 pm about his work on 'Endangered Gardens, a guide to New Zealand garden history literature.'

It was a small gathering with six of us and we were also joined by Christine, the café owner's sister who looks after the garden at One2one.

While attempting to talk about the 19th century literature that influenced the mid-19th century New Zealand garden (such as Uvedale Price's book *On the Picturesque* (1842) that was owned by Bishop G Selwyn), John was extremely patient with his audience, answering a constant stream of questions. While we were out the back of the café indulging in things historical, in the front an 'open mike' session was going on with readings by local poetry and writers. Personally I had intended to stay and listen in afterwards, but after our meal was brought in at 7 pm and we all continued to grill John until his own meal had gone cold, the discussions continued long after the intended end of our gathering and the readings were forgotten.

We continued to delve into John's knowledge of landscape and garden history and by the end of the evening we came away totally invigorated by how much his expertise cross-fertilised into all of our very disparate specialty areas of work.

— *Sandra Gorter*

Graham Butterworth

Many PHANZA members will have been sad to hear of Graham Butterworth's death on 21 March 2016. We hope to feature Graham and his work in a later issue of *Phanzine*, but in the meantime offer condolences to Susan, Graham's partner in so many projects, and a former member of the PHANZA executive.

Wellington member catch up

A small group of people attended the informal 'buy your own' drinks at Macs Brewhouse on 28 January. More people had RSVPed but a combination of last minute family commitments and the weather deterred some. Those who did attend enjoyed the good flow of conversation that the smaller numbers allowed.

— *Karen Astwood*