



C/- Auckland Institute and Museum,  
Private Bag,  
Auckland,  
NEW ZEALAND.

A.G.M.A.N.Z. NEWSLETTER NO. 33

April, 1967.

Joseph Gordon ALLINGTON

We have learnt with deep regret of the death, on the 29th December, 1966, of Mr. J.G. Allington, Honorary Curator of the Coromandel School of Mines Museum, and extend to his family our sincere sympathy in their loss.

The Coromandel School of Mines began in 1887, and closed about 1926. The School was re-opened as a Museum in 1963, and Mr. Allington played a leading part in restoring the building, collecting relics of the mining period, and conducting visitors through the Museum. He obtained a grant from the Small Museums Fund, to improve the displays, in March 1965, and attended the School for Curators, held at the Auckland Institute and Museum in July 1965.

Mr. Allington was a mining engineer, and his remarkable knowledge of mines and minerals, enthusiasm, and delightful personality, made the Coromandel Museum a success: more than 8,500 people visited it in 1965. His successor as Honorary Curator is Mr. Samuel K. Chapman, Tiki Road, Coromandel, who also has had practical experience in mining and battery work.

POOL IMPORT LICENCE

Following repeated requests for closer control of the licence, Council decided on 1.3.67 to ask members to advise what extracts they will require during the first 6 months of the new licencing year.

Will members who wish to use the pool licence please advise the Hon. Secretary, Dr. R. Cooper, C/- Auckland Institute & Museum, Private Bag, Auckland, before the next Council Meeting on 18.5.67.

Please supply the following information:-

1. Articles to be imported, country of origin, whether under negotiation or actually bought, and expected date of arrival.
2. The amount of licence required in the period from 1.7.67 to 31.12.67, (allow for cost, insurance, freight and exchange).
3. Whether extracts are required to remit funds overseas, or to clear an article through Customs, or both.

On receipt of this information, members will be advised as soon as possible of the amount of the licence allocated to them.

SCHOOL FOR CURATORS

It is regretted that, owing to lack of accommodation, it was necessary to postpone the third school, to be held at Otago Museum, Dunedin, in February 1967. The School will now be held at Otago Museum from Tuesday 2nd to Thursday 4th May, 1967.

Accommodation is still a problem, and curators who wish to attend are asked to make immediate application to Dr. R.R. Forster, Director, Otago Museum, Great King Street, Dunedin. Will curators who applied for the school in February, please let Dr. Forster know as soon as possible whether they can attend on the new dates.

Fares and an allowance of £3 per day may be granted from funds provided by the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council and the J.R. McKenzie Trust.

### THEFTS

The Superintendent, Criminal Investigation Branch, New South Wales Police, has issued a special circular dealing with recent thefts from the Nicholson Museum of Sydney University. As the thefts are so close to our shores, details are given below:

Stolen between 6 p.m. on 19.1.67 and 6.35 a.m. on 20.1.67:

One bronze axe head, approx. 3,000 years old; two reproductions of Mycenaean daggers, each about 9" long, heavily ornamented hunting screws in silver; one gold coloured death mask about 14" long; one bronze Etruscan belt buckle with two hooks; one brass Aladdin type lamp with letters R X hanging therefrom; 12 pottery bottles 3" to 9" tall; bronze statuette of a satyr from Pompeii, approx. 7" tall; and a number of Roman coins.

Stolen between 5 p.m. on 26.1.67 and 9 a.m. on 27.1.67:

201 Ancient Coins, comprising 108 Greek silver coins, 31 Roman Republic silver coins, 51 Roman Imperial silver coins, and 11 Roman Imperial bronze coins. The value of the items stolen cannot be estimated.

Last year, an opal collection, said to be worth £40,000, was stolen from the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Harris Street, Sydney. In the circumstances, members are advised again to take all possible precautions against theft and to prepare accurate descriptions and clear photographs of all valuable items on display.

### CAPITAL GRANTS

Discussions at the Southland Conference are reported later in this Newsletter. The Prime Minister and Minister of Internal Affairs have replied since to our representations. As expected, both say that we must look to the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council for capital subsidies.

Mr. David Peters, Director of the Arts Council, advised by telephone on 10.3.67 however that there is no point in forwarding the applications held by Agmanz. The Arts Council policy of not granting capital subsidies to Art Galleries and Museums cannot be changed. The Arts Council has not enough money for all activities, and is fully committed to the establishment of live theatres in the four main centres.

A copy of Agmanz letter to the Prime Minister was sent to the Municipal Association of New Zealand (Inc.) on 21.1.67. The Executive has resolved that the Municipal Association support Agmanz' request for capital subsidies direct from the Consolidated Fund.

The Registrar, N. Z. Library Association (Inc.) advised on 13.3.67 that Libraries have experienced difficulties similar to those encountered by Art Galleries and Museums in seeking grants from the Arts Council, and the Association proposes to ask the Minister of Internal Affairs if he will see members on the question.

The Council of Agmanz will consider these letters at a meeting on Thursday, 18th May, 1967. Meantime, members can help by asking their Local Authorities, newspapers, and Members of Parliament, to discuss the case for capital subsidies. For example, Galleries and Museums are hosts to ever-increasing numbers of visitors, many of whom are overseas tourists. Surely, it would be sensible for the Government to assist with Gallery and Museum improvements for the exchange-earning tourist industry?

### THE SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE

In March 1959, Mrs. O. Sansom, Director of the Southland Museum, was forced to resign owing to illhealth. The Museum Trust Board had accumulated £17,000 for extensions, but received an income of only £622, from donations, to pay salaries and running expenses for the year. The Museum was robbed of valuable pioneer material, a tiki, gold specimens, revolvers and coins and, at Easter 1959, the Trust Board decided to close the doors until adequate staff could be provided.

The press gave the closing considerable publicity, and the Rotary Club, Progress League, Education Board, and various Local Bodies expressed concern. Finally, the Invercargill City Council held a meeting, and the Local Authorities of Southland agreed to provide the Museum with an income of £2,500 per annum for 5 years. The Museum re-opened in December 1959.

Today, the Museum is one of the best of the smaller Museums in the country, with first class displays, excellent reference collections, and a clean, attractive building. Present staff are Gordon White (Director), Arthur MacKenzie (Senior Assistant) and Russell Beck (Assistant). Graham Blick serves as Hon. Secretary. Income for the year ended 30.4.66 was £4,374. Attendances totalled 28,537. (There is a moral in this tale, and other Museums might give serious thought to closing their doors until they can provide adequate, salaried staff and protect their collections).

The 9th Biennial Conference of the Association was opened at Southland Museum, Invercargill, by the Mayor of Invercargill, Mr. N.L. Watson, at 11 a.m. on Monday, 27th February, and continued until 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 1st March, 1967. Tuesday afternoon was spent at Bluff, where members studied the oyster industry and were the guests of the progressive Harbour Board at afternoon tea.

There are nearly 80 public Art Galleries and Museums in New Zealand; 50 now belong to the Association, and 16 were represented at the Conference. This small number was disappointing, but the 35 delegates and members who attended, maintained lively discussions, gave the business most thorough study, and provided the incoming Council with a number of worthwhile tasks for the coming year.

Our sincere thanks to the Trust Board and staff of the Southland Museum are recorded later in this Newsletter, in the Minutes of the Final Plenary Session.

#### THE FINANCING OF ART GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS

An address, given by the President, Dr. R.R. Forster, to the 10th Biennial Conference at Southland Museum, Invercargill, on Monday morning, 27th February, 1967.

I have chosen as a topic for brief comment, the Financing of Museums and Art Galleries - not the question of the basic financing, which in a local museum will always come from local sources - but supplementary finance - the provision of that little extra which makes all the difference between standing still and moving forward.

There is a major problem now being tackled by the Association. This is the provision of grants to subsidize those funds raised locally for capital expenses, such as the provision of new buildings and extensions. You will all know that in the past these lump sums have been provided from Government sources - but also let me remind you that these grants have never been available on the basis of a firm government policy which would enable firm planning to be undertaken. Each grant application has been considered individually, and we hope on its own merits, but while grants made have undoubtedly been influenced by precedents, which in this country tend to take the place of a clear cut policy, they have been very much a question of political expediency - the timing of the application in relation to the election and the state of the country's finances at that particular time.

At the moment, however, we are caught up in a ludicrous situation where a Museum or Art Gallery cannot even have an application for a subsidy considered, let alone granted, because the government considers that such funds should now be supplied from Lottery Funds, rather than Consolidated Funds, and the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council, which now administers that section of the Lottery Funds which includes Museums and Art Galleries, is so overwhelmed with developmental projects that it has laid down a definite policy that no capital grants should be made from its funds for Museums and Art Galleries.

The answer to this problem is not simply an increase in the funds allocated to the Arts Council because, as I understand the situation, much more is required to continue the development work they have already undertaken in the fields of their present concern.

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Just what is the case for the provision of additional finance from Government sources to assist the provincial and local Museums and Art Galleries in New Zealand. - First, the objects and specimens housed in these institutions are usually pertinent to the local area, but they do in total comprise a national heritage.

Our major Museums and some Art Galleries are known and respected throughout the world, and all of our Museums and Galleries are an integral part of tourist attractions throughout the country. The total number of visitors to the institutions listed in our guide totalled 2,500,000 for 1965.

The major Museums have active research programmes which are of national importance, and, while some assistance may be available for specific projects from the Scientific Distribution Committee, these funds do not make any provision for capital requirements such as housing collections and providing working space.

Now let us come back to the question of just what finance is needed. I feel that we should not merely try to establish the status quo and go back to the conditions of a decade ago. We should try and think a little deeper. Is it sufficient to receive a £1 to £1, or £1 to £3 subsidy for monies raised by an appeal? I do not think so. It is quite possible for us to run an appeal for a specified project, and let us acknowledge that the people in this country are remarkably generous in spite of the vast number of appeals they are asked to support. But once the appeal is successfully completed and the building constructed, it must then be maintained year after year, and developed. It is just not possible to run continual appeals for this purpose.

We are faced with the question of whether such buildings should be erected only when a sufficient income for the future is assured from local sources? Or should the building come first and the problem of regular funds for maintenance and development be faced subsequently?

Could not the problems of both capital expenditure and maintenance be considered together in an approach to Government? Could not some scheme be established whereby the Museums and Art Galleries are entitled, as a right, to receive a sum of money each year which would be a subsidy available for both capital expenditure and subsequent maintenance and development; a sum which could be used as the governing body of each institution thought best? To bring these thoughts into concrete form -

If say a £1 for £1 subsidy were available for all locally secured income, from rates, grants or donations, after the first £500, with a maximum subsidy of say £8,000, this would enable an institution which had plans for capital expansion to put aside the amount they received in subsidy year by year until a sufficient sum was available for the work planned. But when the extension or construction was completed there still remains the annual subsidy to assist in development and staffing for the future. Those institutions which have no building plans may use the full sum available for building up staff and services.

This type of scheme would mean that every institution is supported in direct relation to the extent of the local support and that the future subsidy is also dependent on continuing local support. The subsidy however is secured of right and firm planning may be undertaken.

In addition to an initial subsidy, provision would be required for those organisations setting up a new Gallery or Museum.

It might be asked why I suggest that such a subsidy should only take effect after the first £500? This is just my personal feeling, that, for an institution to develop, there is a need for some regular paid staff, and there is the minimum sum required. There is also the point that this is a sum which is not beyond the resources of many communities which have Museums or Galleries. If such a sum cannot possibly be available then the question is raised: has that community really faced up to its responsibilities in establishing a Gallery or Museum?

Some members will ask: is this not the first step in Government control? Unfortunately this doubt is expressed the wrong way. The difficulties we would have to face in establishing such a scheme are quite the reverse. This is the reluctance of the Government to take any responsibility for non government institutions. A subsidy scheme can never be obligatory. You may take it or leave it and, having taken it, your dependence on it is purely a question for you to decide.

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How could such a scheme be administered? No special committee is required. Everything is clearly laid down as a right. All that is required is clerical work to check applications and calculate the grant. This could easily be administered as an adjunct to the Arts Council or Department of Internal Affairs.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. T.M. Barrett, Sarjeant Art Gallery: There is great variety in the financing of Galleries and Museums. Surely a survey is needed before any approach is made to the Government?

Mr. B.G. Hamlin, Dominion Museum: Galleries and Museums deserve more money. There has been very generous giving in the past but so many institutions are now static that the public image of Museums is a poor one. The proposed subsidies would help to remedy this situation.

Mr. J.S.B. Munro, Hawke's Bay Art Gallery & Museum: Maintenance eats up more and more of income. The scheme proposed is an admirable one.

Mr. S.G. Brooker, Auckland Institute & Museum: Our income comes from towns which are now building their own Museums, and the maintenance of our institution is an increasing problem. Galleries and Museums are providing cultural amenities, facilities for hordes of tourists, and educational classes and material for many thousands of school children, but we are way behind other groups in the support we receive from Government sources.

Dr. R.K. Dell, Dominion Museum: We must set our house in order. The geography of New Zealand - a long narrow country of two main islands, - has been a factor in producing the present structure of Galleries and Museums. The total population is only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million people, and one institution - for example, one really good Natural History Museum, - would be more appropriate to a population of this size than the present multitude of Galleries and Museums.

Dr. R.S. Duff, Canterbury Museum: The President's stimulating and provocative address is entirely his personal view. The Association last year declared a common policy on capital grants and went only as far as asking for subsidies for capital works. It was assumed that income would continue to come from local sources. We greatly appreciate your address and your courage in suggesting a break with precedent.

(APPLAUSE)

Monday, 27th February, 1967. 2 p.m.

REPORT ON TARANAKI MUSEUM EDUCATION SERVICE

by Rigby Allan, Director, Taranaki Museum, New Plymouth.

I feel qualified to write on School Education Services, as associated with provincial museums, since we have recently established a scheme here in Taranaki. During my tour of America in 1964 I had the pleasure of attending a two day seminar on Education at Toledo Art Museum and I have been able to incorporate into our scheme several ideas discussed at that gathering. Although not a member of the Education sub-Committee, I think that from my experience I can contribute ideas which may be of assistance to other members and will be pleased to do so if this is requested. From the outset we had the full co-operation of the Education Board as they were as anxious as ourselves to obtain a diversion from the Departmental policy of appointing Education Officers to only Metropolitan museums. We registered our application in 1964 after demonstrating the educational possibilities of the Museum. Following this we received notification from the Board every few months acquainting us with the progress being made in meeting our request.

When the appointment was made in May 1966 the Chief Inspector of Schools in Taranaki requested that the Museum's programme, as organised at the beginning of the year, be continued to allow the new appointee to become acquainted with our scheme and eventually take complete control. This presented no difficulties as our service to schools was operating smoothly. The person appointed, Mrs. Wharehoka, had three years teaching before her marriage but had no museum experience whatsoever. She has adapted admirably to the position and although, at present, is engaged only on a part-time basis of fifteen hours per week we hope to have these hours extended later this year. The requests from schools exceed the time available, and we have made a recommendation to the Education Board that Mrs. Wharehoka be employed for a longer period each week. However the Board were not able to grant this request as the scheme was introduced on a trial basis for a minimum period of twelve months under present conditions.

After two terms with an Education Officer attached to our institution, I wish to make the following observations which, while applying to our particular case, may be of interest to Museums of similar size and locality to the Taranaki Museum.

1. Toilet facilities are inadequate.
2. Some classes create a great deal of noise at arrival and departure times due, sometimes, to too great numbers and, occasionally, to lack of discipline.
3. There is need for folding canvas chairs for children to use when receiving instruction in the Museum gallery.
4. Earlier heating of the building is necessary to cater for children arriving in the morning from outlying districts, and re-arrangement of the custodian's hours is necessary to enable the premises to be cleaned.
5. An extra trolley was required to convey material from the basement for use in specialised lectures and a mobile blackboard in the Museum.
6. Re-arrangement of office space to allow for the Education Officer's own area with telephone, filing cabinets, storage space etc., was necessary.
7. A strict check on material issued for lectures is necessary.

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The Museum staff assist by receiving and recording appointments when the teacher is not in attendance, typing and despatching correspondence and reports, supplying film strips and slide projector, making available tape recordings (Maori Chants, Waiatas etc.) and recommending and providing material for lectures. We work in close liaison with the Senior Inspector of Schools and the schools' Science Adviser and meet frequently for discussions and smoothing out of any problems. All parties concerned are very keen to see the continuing success of this newly created position.

During the two terms, a total of 4,048 children in 124 classes from 50 schools attended the courses organised on various subjects ranging from "Maori Legends and Folklore" for the primers to "Light" for the senior classes. A total of 24 classes attended for lessons on other subjects requested by themselves.

#### CONCLUSION:

The appointment of an Education Officer has been a great advantage to our museum; the staff have been relieved of duties which, although very necessary, often become burdensome when coupled with routine work. The children attending the classes come from all over Taranaki and they have received great benefit from their lessons and returned to their homes excited by the novelty of the trip away and their newly acquired knowledge. Their parents have thereby been given an insight into some, at least, of the many uses of a museum and this is important since they are the ratepayers on whom we depend for our existence. Their small contribution paid as a rate consequently seems more worthwhile. What bridge or road would suffer from the lack of this minute individual contribution?

One aspect of this new development, which has to be taken into account, is that of relative remuneration. A full-time Education Officer attached to a provincial museum would receive a considerably higher salary than the Museum Director. Even at thirty hours per week based on the present rates an Education Officer would receive more than most small museum directors. Perhaps it is the Museum Directors who are underpaid? In cases like ours where a teacher with no museum experience of any kind is employed, and is wholly dependent at the outset of her work on the Museum staff, it does seem that an anomaly exists.

#### DISCUSSION:

Mr. Gordon White, Southland Museum: We have been advised that, after 30 years of representations, the Education Department has approved the appointment of an Education Officer to Southland Museum. The officer will begin duty on 1st March, working 15 hours per week.

Dr. Duff: How do small Museums manage without Teacher College students?

Mr. White: One member of staff will help the Education Officer, breaking the class in half.

Dr. Duff: This is obviously better than the old crocodile.

Mr. Munro: One teacher cannot control 30 or more children in the Museum. At Napier we break each class into groups of 8 or less children. A cadre of 10 ladies (5 on duty at a time) provide our volunteer school service. They are former teachers, and most are graduates. They do not use film strips or slides as these can be shown at school by the class teacher. The aim at the Museum is to show the class things which they cannot see elsewhere. Classes are taught in the mornings, when the Museum is closed to the public. Meetings of our teachers, headmasters, Museum staff, and the Science Adviser and Inspectors of the Education Board, are held each year to assess progress and needs. The Education Board

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cyclostyles our question sheets and grants £25 each year for incidental expenses. We have not pressed for the appointment of an Education Officer as the present scheme works well, and the Education Officer's higher salary could be a source of friction.

- Dr. Forster: Will the Education Board meet the expenses of the Southland Museum Education Service?
- Mr. White: We are to supply office space and a theatre to seat 30 children. The Education Board will supply a projector, and materials for cyclostyling.
- Dr. Forster: Will the Education Board meet extra costs for cleaning, lighting and heating?
- Mr. White: No, these costs will rise.
- Mr. F.E. Smith, Wanganui Museum: About 12,000 children, in classes, visit the Wanganui Museum each year. The Education Board asked us to include a classroom in the Extension we are building, but did not pay for it. Recently, a deputation asked the Government for a grant of £10,000 to finish the Extension, but we have not had a reply yet.

Dr. Roger Duff, chairman of the afternoon sessions, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Rigby Allan for his report. The vote was carried with applause.

Monday, 27th February, 1967, 2.30 p.m.

THE RELATION OF AMATEUR SOCIETIES TO ART GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS

by W.S. Baverstock F.R.S.A., Director, Robert McDougall Art Gallery,  
Christchurch.

The excellent paper given by Mr. Baverstock, and a summary of the discussion have been held over for Newsletter 34.

Monday, 27th February, 1967, 3.15 p.m.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

At the session on "Training", held at Dominion Museum on 27.4.66, members set up a committee, consisting of Dr. Falla, Mr. Gilbert Docking and the Secretary, to draft a document for vocational guidance, liaison officers and careers officers, on employment opportunities and training required for Art Gallery and Museum work. The first drafts prepared by Dr. Falla and Mr. Docking were circulated in Newsletter 32 of February 1967.

Mr. V.F. Fisher, Auckland Institute & Museum: Many young people, and also parents, have over the years sought information, guidance and advice from me on the question of a museum career. Sometimes the talks are purely exploratory but, frequently, they concern young people who are keen to enter the museum profession, either on the professional or technical side. I have always tried to present a balanced view of what it may involve. In particular, I emphasize that, if a professional appointment is sought, hard study is required and that, even after completing a University degree, it may be necessary to wait for an opportunity. The inquirer is reminded that, in this field, the monetary rewards are poor, but the work itself is rewarding...

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In the draft prepared by Dr. Falla, the Editor has omitted the salary scale, with the comment: "we don't want to frighten all applicants away". The comment is facetious, but I feel strongly that many Museum Boards could do more to improve salaries. I am well aware that all Boards have innumerable financial problems but, with better salaries, better staff would be available, and it is staff that make a Museum "tick". Already today, two directors have drawn attention to the fact that their salaries are less than those paid to part-time Education Officers.

Small Museums commencing would be wise to plan for the appointment of a full-time, qualified Director, within five years of opening, at a salary of at least £1,200 a year. Honorary staff can make an excellent contribution, but a Museum will not develop without salaried (professional) staff.

It has often been said that Museum workers are "dedicated", but surely it is only fair to pay adequate rewards for dedication, experience and qualifications. If more serious thought were given to the salary question, more people would be attracted to the profession and Museum Boards would be better served.

Dr. Dell:

I wish to comment on several points in the drafts. First, the standard of children who write for summer vacation jobs at Dominion Museum, is generally low. Since 1947, one hundred and fifty youngsters have been employed (up to ten each year), but only one has been appointed subsequently to the permanent staff. Secondly, I doubt whether early specialization is a bad thing. It is worthy of note that two present Directors began to specialize at the age of 12 years. It is my personal theory that Museum people have a "kink". Thirdly, there are seldom employment opportunities in Galleries and Museums. Youngsters may have to wait 20 years or more, before the jobs they want are vacated by the present incumbents.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Hamish Keith, Keeper, Auckland City Art Gallery, urging the Association to recognise the Diploma of the Museums Association, London, as the basic qualification.

Dr. Dell: This is not applicable to Museums. We expect applicants to be University graduates.

Dr. Forster suggested that the drafts and comments be referred to Council. This was approved and the session ended at 4 p.m.

Monday, 27th February, 1967, 4 p.m.

#### SMALL MUSEUMS FUND

The President, Dr. R.R. Forster, described the terms on which the fund is made available by the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council. He emphasized that each applicant Museum must make a contribution: each grant from the fund is a subsidy. He said that Council had discussed the question of what is a "Small Museum". Otago Museum, for example, is classed as a "Large Museum" for the purpose of the fund, but is in a far worse financial position than some "Small Museums". He asked whether the fund could be a general fund for all museums.

Mr. J. Mack, Palmerston North: There have been two short-term schools and a third is to be held. A sum of money could well be devoted to more specific training for a longer term.

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- Mr. F. E. Smith, Wanganui: We need the advice and help of a display expert to set up new displays in the Wanganui Museum Extension.
- President: Council would have to discuss this; it might be regarded as capital expenditure. It would be better if one of your staff could go to a larger museum for training.
- Dr. R. K. Dell, Dominion Museum: The larger museum should be recompensed.
- President: Display staff of the Otago Museum are fully committed for the next three years, but we still welcome trainees.
- Mr. Smith: Could the salary of a visiting expert for three months be met from the fund?
- President: You would not get far in three months.
- Mr. M. G. Hitchings, Hocken Library: Is assistance available for conservation?
- Secretary: Yes, subsidies have been paid to Hawke's Bay Art Gallery & Museum and Hamilton Art Gallery for the visit of an expert and for urgent restoration work recommended by him.
- Mr. Mack: I received a subsidy of £350 for training at the Auckland City Art Gallery. An applicant wishing to register for the Diploma of the Museums Association, London, must have full-time, fully-paid employment in a professional capacity in a Gallery or Museum for at least six months. The grant assisted me to comply with this requirement, and the fund might be used to help other candidates to establish their eligibility.
- Mr. J. Jacobs, Canterbury Museum: Expert display staff cannot be spared from the larger museums; could the Fund be used to employ an itinerant specialist to visit smaller museums and help them with their displays?
- President: The position is too uncertain; the Arts Council grant is made annually. No large Museum could offer an employment contract to an extra display man in these circumstances.
- Mr. V. F. Fisher, Auckland Museum: Museums generally are short of display people, and the real problem seems to be lack of income.
- Mr. T. M. Barrett, Sarjeant Art Gallery: A minimum salary scale for small museums seems to be the first requirement.
- Mr. T. J. Bayliss, Auckland Museum: Lots of display problems would disappear if museums paid adequate salaries.
- President: This Museum, Southland, shows the excellent work done by professional (salaried) staff.
- Secretary: The Association has prepared two reports on salary scales but institutions have not adopted them.
- Dr. R. S. Duff, Canterbury Museum: The first report, containing a scale for particular posts, was effective in the South Island. The second report, proposing various equivalents, was confusing. If a third report is made, a definite scale should be prepared.
- Mr. Fisher: The Small Museums Fund should perhaps be kept for museums with professional (salaried) staff.
- Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Dominion Museum: If smaller museums cannot afford to pay for qualified staff, would it not be better to disperse their collections to centres where they can be cared for properly? We have just heard of an institution which pays a total of £1,600 for three staff members; this is appallingly low.
- Mr. Smith: The Wanganui Public Museum has been built up by unpaid volunteers. We could not have added the Extension and paid staff as well.

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Secretary: I apply to the Arts Council each year for a grant for the Small Museums Fund. May I have a direction as to the amount I should apply for and the purposes for which it is proposed to use the money?

After further discussion it was resolved: that Council ask the Arts Council for not less than the amount granted previously, and for a liberalization of the grant to include improvements to displays and the removal of the distinction between large and small museums.

The meeting ended at 5.15. p.m.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT SOUTHLAND MUSEUM,  
INVERCARGILL, AT 9.30 a.m. ON TUESDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY, 1967.

PRESENT: Dr. R.R. Forster (President), and 30 members and delegates.

APOLOGIES: were received from Mr. Rigby Allan, Director, Taranaki Museum;  
Mrs. Ruth Davey, Council Member, Hamilton Art Gallery;  
Mr. Gilbert Docking, Director, Auckland City Art Gallery;  
Mr. J. Donnelly, Curator, Whangarei City Museum;  
Mrs. A.N. Gale, Chairman, Management Committee, Taranaki Museum;  
Mr. H.C. McQueen, Chairman, Management Committee, Dominion Museum;  
Mr. David Peters, Chairman, Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council;  
Mrs. O. Sansom, Stewart Island.  
Professor K.W. Thomson, Vice-President, Palmerston North Art Gallery;  
Mr. P.A. Tomory, Senior Lecturer, University of Auckland;  
Mr. E.G. Turbott, Director, Auckland Institute and Museum.  
Mr. L.B. Brighton, Chairman, Southland Museum Trust Board;  
The Secretary was notified of the following:

DELEGATES:

Aigantighe Art Gallery	-	Mr. C.A. Brunsdon.
Auckland City Art Gallery	-	Mr. L.C. Lloyd.
Auckland Institute and Museum	-	Mr. S.G. Brooker and Mr. V.F. Fisher.
Canterbury Museum	-	Dr. Roger Duff and Mr. W. Deans.
Dominion Museum	-	Dr. R.K. Dell and Mr. B.G. Hamlin.
Dunedin Public Art Gallery	-	Mr. Charlton Edgar and Mr. F.R.J. Dean.
Hawke's Bay Art Gallery and Museum	-	Mr. J.S.B. Munro and Mrs. F.M. Bestall.
Hocken Library	-	Mr. M. Hitchings.
Nelson Provincial Museum	-	Mr. J.R. Eyles and Mrs. B. Duncan.
N.Z. Oceanographic Institute	-	Mr. J.W. Brodie.
Otago Museum	-	Dr. R.R. Forster and Mr. D. Simmons.
Palmerston North Art Gallery	-	Mr. J. Mack.
Robert McDougall Art Gallery	-	Mr. W.S. Baverstock and Cr. W.E. Olds.
Sarjeant Art Gallery	-	Cr. J.B. Bennett and Mr. T.M. Barrett.
Southland Museum	-	Mr. L.B. Brighton and Mr. G. Blick.
Wanganui Public Museum	-	Mr. F.E. Smith and Mr. Chasemore James.

SCRUTINEERS: Miss J. Goulding and Mrs. B. Duncan agreed to act.

MINUTES: of the last Annual Meeting had been circulated in Newsletter 27 of May 1966; were taken as read, and confirmed on the motion of Mr. Munro, seconded Dr. Dell; and signed by the President.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

The Secretary reported that capital subsidies, education in smaller museums, the relationships of amateur societies to art galleries and museums, and the Historic Articles Act had been included in the programme of the Conference.

ANNUAL REPORT:

Capital Subsidies:

- Dr. Duff: This is the most important question before this meeting, and we should re-affirm our policy on the need for subsidies.
- Mr. Simmons: Motions are "hot air". What are the actual needs and resources of art galleries and museums? We need a development plan for museums.
- Mr. Brooker: There is more chance of getting money from Government if specific projects are submitted. It would be best to concentrate on the Kiwi Lottery Board of Control. Many grants are being made for projects that are less worthy than ours.
- Dr. Forster: The Association cannot decide which institution should have priority; that is why I have recommended an automatic subsidy scheme in my Presidential address.
- Mr. Smith: To whom do Galleries and Museums apply for subsidies?
- Mr. Fisher: We await a reply from the Prime Minister and Minister of Internal Affairs.

Dr. Duff moved and Mr. Barrett seconded: that this Annual Meeting of the Association expresses its concern at the lack of specific response by Government to its representations concerning capital grants, adopted at the meeting on the 28th April, 1966, and urges Council to pursue vigorously its approaches to Government.

- Mr. Brooker: It is worthwhile to have a resolution on record, but surely it would be better to submit a specific case to Internal Affairs. Anyone who saw the work being done at Matakohē, for example, would wish to help.
- Dr. Dell: If we did this, Internal Affairs would refer the request to the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council, who have no funds for the capital works of Art Galleries and Museums. The former Government policy of providing subsidies for war memorials and centennial projects is dead. The Government has transferred these functions to the Arts Council which, as we know, will not handle them. The problem is to re-establish an agency to which members may make application with some prospect of success.
- Mr. Barrett: Relying on the Kiwi Lottery lowers the status of member institutions. Surely Museums should receive Government assistance as educational institutions.
- Dr. Forster: Otago Museum applied for a grant from the Education Department last year to cover the costs of housing and running the Museum Education Service. We asked for £1,100, and received a flat refusal.
- Mr. Brooker: Auckland Museum had a similar experience.

Mr. Smith: In Wanganui we would not worry where the money came from if only we could get £10,000 to finish our £60,000 addition.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

Rates:

Dr. Forster: The Minister of Internal Affairs has advised that submissions regarding the inclusion of Art Galleries and Museums in the schedule of non-rateable land in the new Rating Bill, should be made to the Parliamentary Local Bills Committee. Council has decided to ask member institutions whether they wish the Association to make submissions on their behalf.

Mr. Brooker: Auckland Institute and Museum may be levied for a substantial sum for rates this year...

Dr. Duff: How many institutions pay rates at present?

Secretary: Land vested in the National Art Gallery and Dominion Museum, Waitangi National Trust Board and the Historic Places Trust is not rateable. All other Art Galleries and Museums are liable but, as they are owned and/or financed by Local Authorities, generally they are granted remission of rates. Otago Museum is levied for about £800 of which about £600 is remitted.

Dr. Forster: The move for Art Galleries and Museums to pay rates was begun in Dunedin. The City Council considered that the whole provincial area benefits from the Museum and, therefore, should pay rates on it.

Travel Grants: Dr. Forster announced that Council had granted £200 from the De Beer Fund to assist Mr. D.R. Gregg, Keeper of Geology, Canterbury Museum, with travel overseas.

School for Curators:

Dr. Forster said that there were 12 applicants for the third school, but it had to be postponed as there was no hotel accommodation; the Municipal and Surfers' Conferences were held in Dunedin on the proposed dates. Fresh applications for a School in May, will be called in the April Newsletter.

Import Licence:

Dr. Forster: The 1966/7 pool import licence is exhausted. We asked the Minister for £20,000, were granted £12,150, and this has proved insufficient. The new licencing year begins on 1st July 1967, and members who apply at that time should receive extracts.

Mr. Bayliss: Doesn't the Association control the allocation? It seems that the first to apply will get the major share.

Dr. Forster: The difficulty is that members cannot say what their expenditure will be, and it is almost impossible to work out a fair allocation. For example, member institutions receive unexpected bequests. Again, negotiations to buy an article may take a year or more, and it is difficult to say when the licence will be required. Again, items are offered at overseas auctions with little prior notice, and members must be free to bid immediately. The actual commitment is not known until a bid is successful.

Mr. Hamlin: We should seek ratification of the Free Flow Agreement.

Dr. Forster: This is the obvious approach to the problem but the economic climate is unfavourable...

Mr. Baverstock moved and Dr. Dell seconded: that Council press for the adoption of the Unesco 1950 Free Flow Agreement as regards works of art.

Carried.

Mr. Fisher moved and Dr. Duff seconded: that Council be asked to consider the possibility of apportionment of the licence as among applicant institutions.

Carried.

The Langlois-Eteveneaux House Museum is at Akaroa, not Duvauchelle. With this amendment, the Annual Report was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Hamlin, seconded Mr. Fisher.

ACCOUNTS: Mr. Brooker moved and Mr. Hamlin seconded: that the Statement of Accounts, as circulated, be adopted.  
Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COUNCIL:

The President declared the following to be elected as nominations did not exceed the vacancies:

President: Dr. R.R. Forster, Director, Otago Museum, Dunedin.

Vice-President (Art Galleries): Mr. Gilbert Docking, Director, Auckland City Art Gallery.

Vice-President (Museums): Dr. Roger Duff, Director, Canterbury Museum.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Ralph Riccalton, Asst. Preparator, Canterbury Museum.

Hon. Secretary: Dr. R.C. Cooper, Botanist, Auckland Institute & Museum.

Council: Mr. J.W. Brodie, Director, N.Z. Oceanographic Institute.  
Mrs. Ruth Davey, Council Member, Hamilton Art Gallery.  
Dr. R.K. Dell, Director, Dominion Museum.

Mrs. Audrey Gale, Chairman, Executive Committee, Taranaki Museum.

Mr. B.G. Hamlin, Botanist, Dominion Museum.

Mr. J.S.B. Munro, Director, Hawke's Bay Art Gallery & Museum.

Mr. F.E. Smith, Council Member, Wanganui Public Museum.

Professor K.W. Thomson, Vice-President, Palmerston North Art Gallery.

Mr. P.A. Tomory, Senior Lecturer in the History of Fine Arts, University of Auckland.

Mr. E.G. Turbott, Director, Auckland Institute & Museum.

The President called for nominations for the vacant seat on Council and the following names were received:

Mr. J.R. Eyles, Director, Nelson Provincial Museum; nominated by Dr. Duff, seconded by the Secretary.

Mr. H. Walden Fitzgerald, Otago Museum Trust Board; proposed by Dr. Forster, seconded by the Secretary.

Mr. J. Mack, Director, Palmerston North Art Gallery; proposed by Dr. Dell, seconded Mr. Hamlin.

Mr. K.A.J. Wise, Entomologist, Auckland Institute & Museum, proposed by Mr. Fisher, seconded by the Secretary.

Following a secret ballot, Mr. J.R. Eyles was declared elected.

The scrutineers were thanked for their services.

Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Hamlin seconded: that Mr. A.C. Felton A.P.A. N.Z. be re-appointed Hon. Auditor and thanked for his services.

Carried.

#### ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBER:

The President: Pursuant to a Resolution of Council dated 1st November, 1966, Dr. R.A. Falla C.M.G. is nominated for election to Honorary Membership. Dr. Falla served as Lecturer in Nature Study, Auckland Teachers' College 1925-30; Assistant Zoologist, BANZARE - Sir Douglas Mawson's expedition 1929-31; Ornithologist, Auckland Institute and Museum 1931-5; Assistant Director, Auckland Museum, 1936-7; Director, Canterbury Museum, 1937-47; Director, Dominion Museum, 1947-66. He also served in the Naval Auxiliary Patrol in 1942; Coast Watching (Army) overseas 1942-4; and on the Ross Sea Committee, N. Z. National Commission for Unesco, Council of the Royal Society of New Zealand (FRSNZ 1941, President 1948-50), Nature Conservation Council (Chairman since 1963). His distinguished services to science were recognised by the award of the C.M.G. in 1959. He was a foundation member of Agmanz, and served as Chairman of Council for the first year, President 1948-9, Council Member 1949-58, Vice-President (Museums) 1959-62, and Council Member 1962-6.

In accordance with Rule 7 C, no seconder of the nomination is required. The motion: that Dr. Falla be elected to Honorary Membership was carried by acclamation.

#### FELLOWSHIP:

The President announced that the Council had decided to award a Fellowship of the Association to Mr. Ralph Riccalton, in recognition of his outstanding work in museum display, his excellent report on his overseas tour, and his services to Agmanz. (Applause).

#### 10TH CONFERENCE, 1969:

The Secretary reported that the Director of the Gisborne Art Gallery and Museum, Mr. W.H. Way, has invited the Association to meet there in 1969, the year in which the 200th anniversary of Captain Cook's first landing in New Zealand will be celebrated. The Association has not met in Gisborne before.

Mr. S.G. Brooker, President of the Auckland Institute and Museum, invited the Association to hold the Conference at the Auckland Institute and Museum. He mentioned the progress in display, the new Early Auckland historical section, and the new Coffee Lounge. There would be opportunities for visitors to see the Museum of Transport & Technology and the City Art Gallery. The Association has not met at the Auckland Institute and Museum before.

Mr. F.E. Smith, Treasurer of the Wanganui Public Museum, invited the Association to hold the Conference at Wanganui in 1969, when the new Maori Court and Extension will be finished. The Association last met in Wanganui in 1955.

Mr. Fisher moved and Dr. Dell seconded: that it be left to Council to decide where the 10th Biennial Conference be held in 1969. Carried. It was agreed that a questionnaire might be sent to members if Council so decided. It was suggested that this include information regarding the three centres from which Institution Members have issued invitations.

#### GENERAL:

The President paid tribute to Mr. V.F. Fisher who has retired from Council. He said that Mr. Fisher had helped to found Agmanz, and had served as Secretary, Treasurer, Council Member and President. He had initiated a number of valuable proposals and played a leading part in the introduction of the Fellowship. The President moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Fisher for his services to the Association, and this was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Barrett moved and Dr. Duff seconded: that the Council reconsider the scheme, outlined several years ago, to establish small art galleries as annexes to libraries, in small towns, and approach the Libraries Association for their co-operation. The motion was lost on a count of hands.

The meeting ended at 12.15 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the President and Secretary.



Wednesday, 1st March, 1967, 9.30 a.m.

ARTS COUNCIL

Dr. Roger Duff, Canterbury Museum: There is complete uncertainty as to the position regarding subsidies on the capital works of Galleries and Museums. The Government contends that we must look to the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council for grants, but they know, as we know, that the Arts Council is unable to help. Both Mr. G.G. Gibbes Watson, Chairman, and Mr. David Peters, the Director of the Arts Council, have addressed us and we are most conscious of their co-operation and frankness, but we may be neglecting one avenue of approach. I move: that this Association, representing an important group of interests with which the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council is concerned, seek the appointment of a nominee on the Council.

Mr. Fisher: seconded the motion.

Dr. R.K. Dell, Dominion Museum: Members of the Arts Council are appointed as individuals, not as representatives of organisations. We want out from under the Arts Council: too many interests already look to it for assistance.

The President, Dr. Forster: Only one per cent of the income of the Arts Council is devoted to Art Galleries and Museums. Two members of the Arts Council have been connected with Museums for many years. Would another member interested in Galleries and Museums make any difference? The Arts Council has not enough money for all its activities.

Mr. B.G. Hamlin, Dominion Museum: It would be better to support the efforts of the Arts Council to obtain more funds.  
After further discussion, the motion was carried on a count of hands.

Wednesday, 1st March, 1967, 9.45 a.m.

GROUP INSURANCE

After general discussion of the cost of insuring collections, Mr. Brooker moved and Mr. Smith seconded: that Council be asked to examine the possibility of obtaining cheaper insurance cover. Carried.

HISTORIC ARTICLES ACT

At the last Annual Meeting, held on 28.4.66, Mr. E. Atkinson, President of the Wanganui Public Museum, suggested that appropriate sections of the Historic Articles Act should be displayed or read when an auction of artifacts and works of art is held. After further discussion, Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Chase-more James seconded: that Council be asked to examine the question. Carried.

REPORTS OF GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS

These have been held for Newsletter 34. A recent circular regarding income tax on donations by companies to the Nelson Provincial Museum's building fund has had to be held over, but copies of it may be obtained urgently from the Hon. Secretary or from Mr. J.R. Eyles, Director of the Nelson Provincial Museum.

The Conference adjourned at 11 a.m. until the Final Plenary Session.

MINUTES OF THE FINAL PLENARY SESSION HELD AT SOUTHLAND MUSEUM,  
INVERCARGILL, AT 2 p.m. ON WEDNESDAY, 1ST MARCH 1967.

PRESENT: Dr. R.R. Forster (President), and 30 members and delegates.

Mr. D.R. Gregg, Canterbury Museum: There has been a revival of interest in geology with the formation of clubs for lapidary work. The clubs are finding new localities for minerals and fossils, and may not realise the scientific importance of their finds. I suggest that Museums should take an interest in the clubs and, perhaps, offer a display case for specimens prepared by club members.

May I suggest too that other Museums consider the appointment of geologists. At present I occupy a unique position. Trained geologists are available for appointment, and they would remain in New Zealand if there were posts for them.

Mr. J.R. Eyles and Dr. Forster described the rapid growth of lapidary groups at Nelson and Dunedin respectively.

Mr. T.J. Bayliss, Auckland Institute & Museum: I have been most interested in the displays in the Southland Museum and, particularly, the dust-free cases.

Mr. G. White, Southland Museum: We have built the cases here. The size of material used is a multiple of the case size; consequently, chipboard and other sheets can be cut down to case size with a minimum of waste. This has kept costs low. The average amount spent on cases in each hall has been about £500. We obtained advice from Canterbury Museum on the measures necessary to prevent the formation of fans of dust at the openings of cases, but we have found that, if we keep the building clean, little dust enters the cases.

Mr. R.J. Jacobs, Canterbury Museum: Dustproofing can be achieved by inserting "lungs" (Apertures filled with glass wool) in case openings, or by placing lights outside the actual display volume of the case. Rise and fall of temperature, from lighting, causes dust to enter.

Dr. Forster: Some of the cases at Otago Museum are developing mould, possibly because they are sealed.

Mr. J. Mack, Palmerston North Art Gallery: First, the Council of the Gallery has decided to limit future buying for the collection to New Zealand paintings, etc., executed after 1890. These are within our income, and will provide a collection of interest. The Committee administering the Purchase Subsidy Fund and the Arts Council require Galleries seeking grants to have a definite policy. Secondly, the Gallery has adopted standard size frames and mounts similar to those used at the Auckland City Art Gallery. If more institutions used standard sizes, we could reduce the cost of loan exhibitions. This is very important to us as we mount 26 exhibitions a year.

Mr. M. Hitchings, Hocken Library: We have adopted similar standard sizes.

Mr. T.M. Barrett, Sarjeant Art Gallery: A collecting policy, such as that adopted at Palmerston North, is destroyed by gifts and advantageous offers. Policy must be made from day to day according to what happens.

Mr. B.G. Hamlin, Dominion Museum: It is refreshing to hear that Palmerston North will pass historical material, earlier than 1890 to other institutions.

- Mr. G. White; Each Museum collects for the ultimate benefit of all Museums. The important thing is to avoid giving a firm commitment to a donor as to the ultimate location of a gift.
- Mr. V.F. Fisher: At Auckland Museum we often lend material to other Museums on "indefinite loan". Some is returned when the borrowing institution obtains its own specimens. We prefer "indefinite loans" to outright gifts as the borrowing Museum may decline, or change its policy. It would be worthwhile to acquaint Law Societies with our problems as they are in a position to advise donors.
- Mr. Barrett: Perhaps representatives of the legal profession could be invited to a future meeting.
- Mr. D. Simmons, Otago Museum: There is need for a definition of areas. The main role of small Museums in Otago is to illustrate the European history of the district. Otago Museum can help with a good display on the Maori history of the district, and with the loan of material of the Victorian period, such as clothing. Small Museums have little use for large series of Maori artifacts and, if these are localised, these should be transferred to the Otago Museum, where they can be cared for properly. A clear understanding of our respective roles can lead to very good co-operation. Could we pass a resolution on this subject?
- Dr. Dell: We don't wish to add to the work of the Council of the Association. Perhaps a member will prepare an article for the Newsletter.
- The President (Dr. Forster): At the close of the Conference I must extend, on behalf of members, our grateful thanks to the President, Chairman, and Board of the Southland Museum for inviting the Association to hold the Conference here, and to Gordon White, Graham Blick, Arthur MacKenzie and Russell Beck, for making our stay so pleasant. Everyone has enjoyed the Conference. We have all been impressed by the excellent displays, the clean and tidy collections, and the attractive surroundings, and we carry away a number of new ideas from your Museum. (Applause).

The Conference ended at 3 p.m.

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