OTAGO EARLY SETTLERS MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER
December 1991
Issue 49

Director's Report

OESM DEVELOPMENT

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE museum, its premises, and course of direction have come under consideration again in the past few months. By August the OESM Board, which will oversee the project, had appointed an OESM Development team, convened by William Cockerill, and OESA had set up an Appeal Committee convened by Tony Anderson. Trevor Scott will act as Treasurer to the project.

Director's Report

In brief, the development project is addressing the well-known difficulties suffered by the museum in its efforts to provide adequate care for all the collections, satisfactory and appropriate venues for the collections to be exhibited, and made available to all who wish to use this remarkable resource of heritage and family history material.

The acquisition of more space to provide necessary storage areas, staff offices and public facilities is a crucial part of the project. OESA will be entering into negotiations with Railcorp to secure the Intercity building for this purpose. The project brief sets out the basic repair work required to make the museum building structurally sound and additional refurbishment of the interiors, installation of environmental and fire control systems and provision of staff offices and designated storage areas.

Application was made to Lottery General in October for assistance with funding for the project, and to date we have been advised that half a million dollars will be allocated when more detailed information about the project stages and their costs, and future operational estimates has been supplied. There are indications that a further grant will be made when the project is underway. Substantial grants have also been received from Trustbank Otago, the McMillan Trust and Cadbury Confectionary Ltd. This is good news indeed and museum staff together with the City Architect's department have worked to produce a preliminary project brief and costs. Tony Anderson will shortly be calling Appeal Committee members together to plan for a major public appeal with a target of one million dollars, to be held early next year.

OESM Development will be an exciting project and deserves support from the whole community. The museum holds the most significant collections of heritage items amassed by any community in New Zealand, and future developments for the museum will ensure that they are well cared for and beautifully displayed.

Future plans for the museum also include new ways of using the technical and transport collections to provide moving, interactive, provocative and contemporary exhibitions and events. We are indeed looking towards a 'Museum of the New Age'.

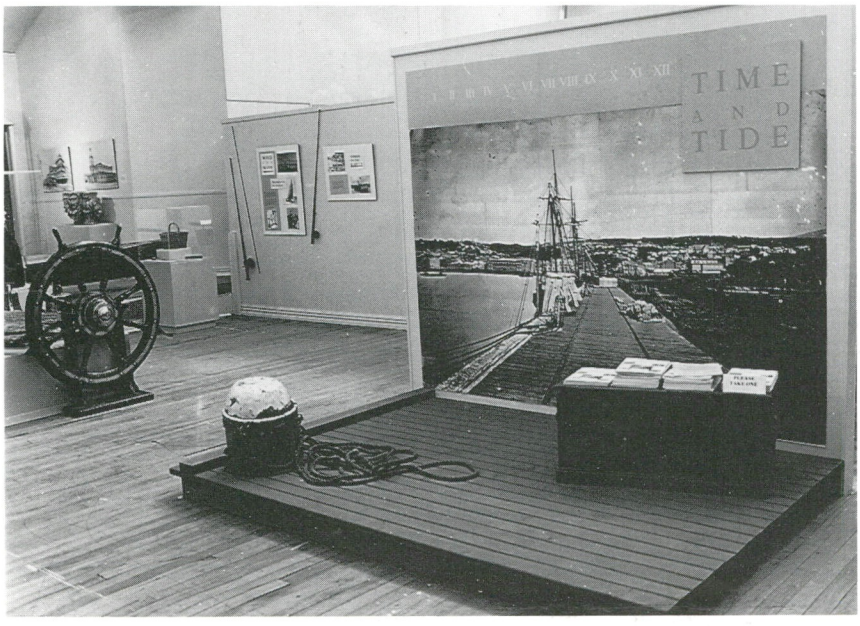
ELIZABETH HINDS
DIRECTOR, OESM

RECENT EXHIBITIONS

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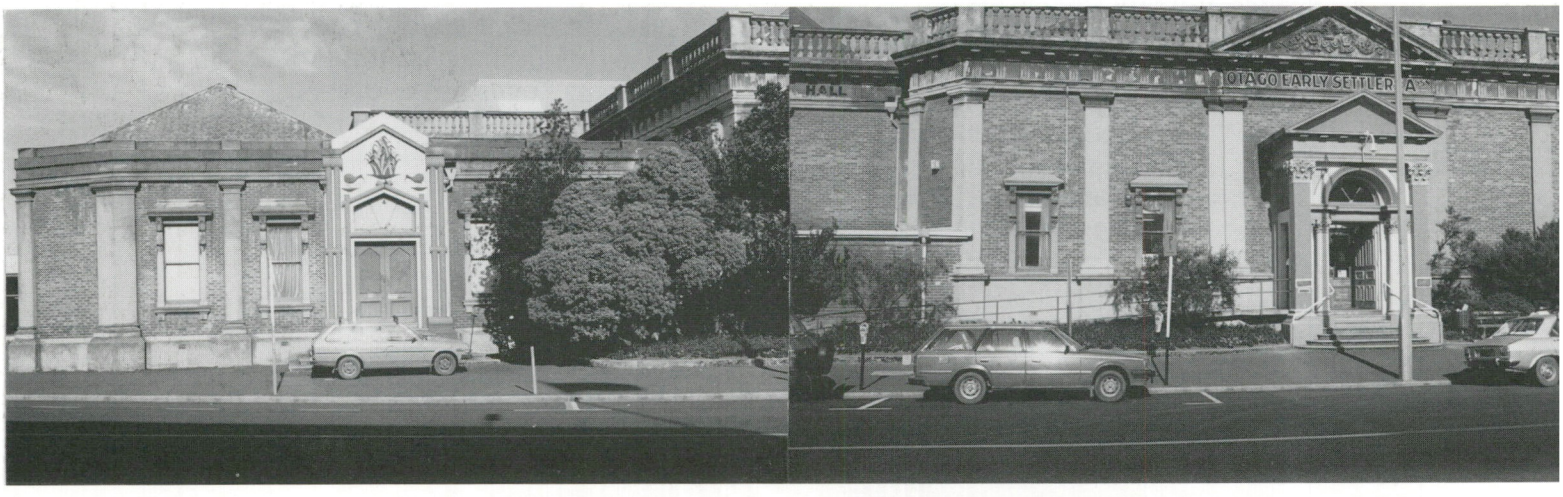
TIME AND TIDE

The introductory section of the 'Time and Tide' exhibition



ON NOVEMBER 7 MR MURRAY DOUGLAS, the Chief Executive of the Dunedin City Council, opened Time & Tide an historic joint project by the museums and related institutions of Otago Harbour. From the Royal Albatross Colony at Taiaroa Head right around to Port Chalmers each institution has put together a display on some aspect of the harbour, its history and present uses. These present an added dimension to the Otago Regional Council/Dunedin City Councils' draft paper on "Options and Issues" for the harbour's development over the next century. It is hoped that these displays will help interested members of the public become aware of the Councils' harbour study and provide an opportunity for wide public involvement in this process.

The OESM has taken this opportunity to revitalise existing displays and develop new ones to tell the story of Dunedin and its growth from muddy village to the first great city of New Zealand. Time and Tide includes a display focusing on emigration, the key shared experience of Otago's nineteenth century European settlers, in which the Museum's well-known model of the "Philip Laing" has pride of place. Copies of the Councils' draft "Options and Issues" paper are available for consultation at the Museum and we also hold a full set of the working group studies which underpin the report.



MUSEUM • NEWS

Archives News

ARCHIVES HAS A PERMANENT ASSISTANT! She is Tania Connelly, a writer and English teacher, who has recently joined the Archives and Research Department as Research Librarian.

Tania came to Dunedin from Timaru two years ago when her husband Martin was appointed as an Educational Reviewer for Otago and Southland. The couple have two children aged 13 and 9 years.

The author of a number of children's books and TV scripts, Tania has a special interest in the writing and publishing of junior historical material especially that relating to Canterbury and Otago in the19th century. She has lately completed a children's novel about sheep stealer James McKenzie and is currently working on a young person's biography of Frances Hodgkins. She has had experience of conducting oral history research and looks forward to using her experience to extend the Archive Department's collection of recorded interviews.

The hunt for a missing great, great grandfather has given Tania a personal enthusiasm for genealogy and a sympathy for visitors who come to the Archives Department in search of lost ancestors. "I get as excited as they do when we produce the sought-after name" she says. "It makes me feel like an ace detective or some sort of medium who has summoned up a ghost!"



Tania Connelly, new OESM Research Librarian

Thursday Opening

With a new staff member to help process research enquiries we are happy to announce that the Research Department will no longer need to shut on Thursdays. We are also able to provide a full research service over the lunch hour. To sum up, the Research Department is now open every week day from 10.30am to 4.30pm.



MUSEUM • NEWS

Art and Costume

Otago Polytechnic School of Art Craft Design Students Annual Exhibition

15 November - 30 November 1991

This year we hosted the Craft Design Course students' annual exhibition. The exhibition incorporates textiles, clothing, jewelry, and sculptural works as well as two dimensional images.

This three year course, which is part of the Dunedin Polytechnic School of Art, explores many different aspects of design, including photography and printmaking. The display also features design starting points, test samples and working processes to show how ideas have evolved into finished pieces.

The emphasis of the course has been on encouraging individuals to apply personal design research to practical exploration of materials, methods and skills.

The exhibition is mounted in the Alexander Thompson Gallery and opened on 15 November with nearly 300 attending. A lively, colourful and extremely professional show, it runs until 30 November. It is hoped this will be an annual event.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

An interesting collection of clothing has been given to the museum by the Hunt family of Wanaka. Many of the pieces have Dunedin and Otago manufacturers labels and range in period from the 1880s approximately up to the1950s. All are in excellent condition and represent a very important addition to the collection. Some pieces will go on display in January in a new display of costume covering the period 1859-1960.

PUNCH AND JUDY PUPPETS

Sue Clifford was commissioned by South Pacific Pictures to make Punch and Judy puppets for their production of the "Sound and Silence", a drama about the life of Alexander Graham Bell. These puppets, along with their stage, have now been given to the museum. They make a colourful, and also very important addition, to our toy collection and will no doubt be put to use for future holiday programmes and performances.



Sue Clifford and one of the childrenwith a puppet made during the Holiday Programme

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME - September 1991

'Puppets Galore'

It was decided to have puppets for our holiday programme theme this year as we had recently acquired an important collection of handcarved puppets by NZ sculptor John Middleditch. These were made in the 1970s for a production of Shakespeare's The Tempest at the Globe Theatre and are based on traditional Japanese Banraku puppets. These were on display throughout the holiday

M U S E U M • S H O P

DUNEDIN TARTAN FUN BUTTONS
We apologise for the confusion caused when we inadverdently left out the price in our last newsletter! We still have stocks and now tell you:

Price to members:	$1.80
P & P	.40

T-SHIRTS
We have a few of the popular "Museum Door" style - but only in adult sizes 12, 14 16 and OS.

Special price to members	$15.00
P & P	.80

SOME NEW BOOKS

THE LANTERN WAS LIGHTED - T. Maguire.
History of the Dunedin Photographic Society Inc. 1890-1990, with photos of members through the years including some of the society founders photographed in 1890, lists of officers and judges.

Price to members	$13.45
P & P	.80

N.Z. TRAGEDIES SHIPWRECKS AND MARITIME DISASTERS - Gavin McLean
Details of famous shipwrecks as well as some lesser known, from the "Wahine" to the "Pride of The Yarra" wrecked in 1863 in Otago Harbour. 218 Pages, historic photos, indexed and bibliography.

Price to members	$26.95
P & P	$3.00

DUNEDIN - Neville Peat.
Photographic souvenir of Dunedin: the wild life, the traditions, the buildings, the people. Brief, informative text.

Price to members	$11.65
P & P	.80

THE FIRST TREE IN THE FOREST a History of Technical Education in Otago 1850-1991 - Stuart C Scott.
From the early years of the Dunedin Technical School and the King Edward Technical College to the creation of Otago Polytechnic and beyond, this is a no-nonsense book by an informed and articulate writer. Photographs, bibliography, index.

Price to members	$17.95
P & P	.80

FOR THE RAILWAY ENTHUSIASTS

MY FORTY FOOTPLATE YEARS
1943-1983 - Rex Hercock
One man's account of his working life on New Zealand's rails during a period of considerable change in technology. First published in 1987.
80 pages, many photos and sketches.

Price to members:	$22.45
P & P	.80

TRAIN CONTROL IN NEW ZEALAND - J A Dangerfield
History of train control as developed in New Zealand from the early years, written by a well known author and railwayman. First published in 1989. 80 pages, well illustrated.

Price to members:	$12.55
P & P	.80

NZR LOCOMOTIVES AND RAILCARS 1990 - T A McGavin
The completely revised 1990 edition, chapters on electric locomotives, diesel-electric railcars, shunting and steam. 65 pages, many photos, some in colour.

Price to members	$25.15
P & P	.80

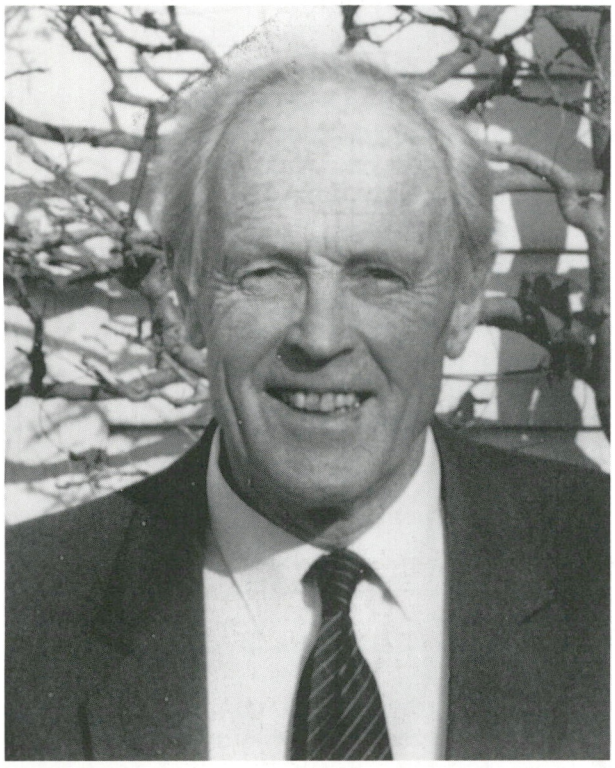
STEAM LOCOMOTIVES OF NEW ZEALAND- PART 3 - 1930-1971
E J McClare
Latest in the series, published 1991.

Price to members	$25.15
P & P	.80

THE RAILWAYS OF NEW ZEALAND - A JOURNEY THROUGH HISTORY-
Geoffrey B Churchman and Tony Hurst.
Part one traces the overall history of New Zealand's rail system; part two details individual areas from Nortland to Southland. The final chapter notes areas where "Steam Lives On": Bay of Islands scenic railway to Ocean Beach Railway, Dunedin. First published in 1990. Lavishly illustrated, many photographs in colour. Index, bibliography, 218 pages.

Price to members	$35.95
P & P	$4.00

ASSOCIATION NEWS



MR N Y A WALES DIP. ARCH FNZIA., the newly elected President of the Association, is descended from Colonel N Y A Wales who arrived on the King of Italy in 1861. He has been a member of the OESA Committee since 1964, and Vice President since 1985. Earlier this year Mr Wales was nominated by OESA Committee to represent members on the OESM Board of Management, and he is also a member of OESM Development team. He was born in 1927 and attended Otago Boys High School, and Auckland University College School of Architecture. During the years 1951-54, Mr Wales worked and travelled in the UK, Europe, USA and Canada, before returning to Dunedin and becoming Director of Mason and Wales in 1955. He is the fourth generation architect in the firm which was founded in 1862, the earliest established architectural firm in NZ. He has been involved with other Dunedin organisations - the Dunedin Club, the Friends of the Otago Museum, the NZ Crippled Children's Society (Otago) and the Otago Hospice, and is co author, with Hardwick Knight of "Buildings of Dunedin" published in 1988. His other interests include tramping, climbing, travel, geology, golf, and skiing.

OESA Committee

The following officers and members were elected to the committee at the annual general meeting of the Association held on 15 August 1991.

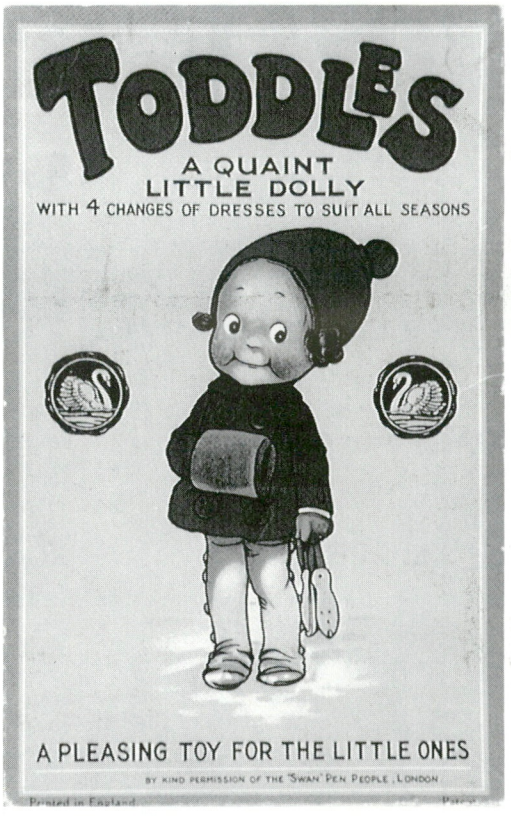
President:	Mr N Y A Wales
Vice Presidents:	Mr C L Croot, Mr R J Beardsmore
Immediate Past President:	The Very Rev Dr J S Somerville
Secretary/Treasurer:	Mr A J Perry
Museum Director:	Mrs E A W Hinds

Members: *Mr B R Clarke, *Mr J A Fletcher, Mrs M D Hall, Mrs D L Hogg, *Mrs H M Kay, Mr B MacGibbon, Ms J Malthus, Mr K V Robinson, Mr A J Salmond, Mr G Sherriff, Mr A I Tunnage, Mrs C A Walker
* new member

DCC Representative: Cr P Hudson

MUSEUM NEWS

MINIATURE WORLD



THIS IMPORTANT COLLECTION IS NOW IN the care of the Early Settlers Museum and the Association Committee decided at a recent meeting that it would cash up some investments and pay over the $60,000 as was agreed. To date fundraising has reached $3700. The inhibiting factor is our major building appeal to be launched early next year and this has meant that fundraising has been kept on a low key.

However, our efforts are continuing with the latest enterprise being a 2000 ticket lottery with $499 worth of prizes donated by Toyland of South Dunedin. Ticket sales are underway at present and are available at the museum counter for $1.00 or $9.00 for a book of 10. If you feel you could help with ticket sales or you would like to make a donation toward the purchase of the Miniature World Collection, please let us know. 'Phone 477-5052

RAY BEARDSMORE, OESA COMMITTEE

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE OTAGO EARLY SETTLERS ASSOCIATION

I am at present engaged in a study on the development of the Highland bagpipe in Otago from the time of the province's earliest settlement.

It may well be that you have your own recollections, or those of your forebears, in the form of memoirs and letters or conversations, which refer to piping activities. I am keen to establish names of early pipers and, where possible, to trace links with specific parts of Scotland.

I am particularly interested in any material, no matter how slight, or apparently insignificant, you would be willing to contribute to this research. All information will be gratefully acknowledged; but, in any future publications, anonymity will be safeguarded should you so wish.

All contributions should be addressed to:

Miss Jennie Coleman
Department of Music
University of Otago
PO Box 56
DUNEDIN Tel: (03) 479 8885

MUSEUM NEWS

diary

1991-2 EXHIBITIONS

DECEMBER 19to FEBRUARY 26	'Crowning Glory', A Social History of Hairdressing
FEBRUARY 3 to 9	Display to coincide with Master's Games Tournament
MARCH 3 to APRIL 4	Nga Kupu Korero - People of the Treaty Speak
APRIL24 to MAY 6	Independent Photographers Group. Images of Gardens

DUNEDIN DAY

FOR SOME TIME MUSEUM STAFF HAVE been aware that whenever the museum has had a free day, visitor numbers double or treble, and in order to encourage the people of Dunedin to visit the museum, explore its varied exhibits and gain an understanding of its importance, Dunedin Day was introduced in September. Admission is now free to everyone on Sundays - Dunedin Day.

The response to Dunedin Day has been excellent with an increase in patronage from about 35 to over 150 each Sunday. It is very encouraging to see the museum visited by many people who, by their own admission, have rarely, if ever, been in the building before, and to hear complimentary comments about the displays and the improvements that have taken place in recent years.

The support and goodwill of all Dunedin and Otago people is important to the museum's forthcoming fundraising appeal for its development plans, and it is hoped that all people, who are now coming to the museum, will realise its value and support the development.

Please encourage your neighbours and friends to take advantage of Dunedin Day - we want all Dunedin and Otago residents to become more aware of the value and importance of the museum collections and to see the museum as part of their heritage. The museum's collections are held in trust for the people of Dunedin and Otago, and administered through the OESM Board. Visitors will be encouraged to join OESA whose continuing support for the museum is one of its most important roles.

programme and created a great deal of interest.

The holiday programme gave us the opportunity to display these puppets and for children to create their own. Some wonderful and weird creations emerged. Local artist and potter Sue Clifford was invited to tutor the sessions. Children made papier maché, string and cut-out cardboard puppets which they painted and dressed. Sue began each session with a talk about the history of puppets and puppet making. Reference books were available and the museum environment provided ample inspiration for the children's creations.

Museum Guides

THE OTAGO EARLY SETTLERS ASSOCIATION has recently implemented a volunteer guide programme organised by Dianne Hall, a member of the Museum Committee In early September Wiebke Heuer, a museum educationalist, with wide experience in Germany, New York and New Zealand, held a three day seminar for museum guide volunteers. Fifteen participants took part in this interesting and valuable seminar.

Currently, fourteen volunteers meet fortnightly as part of an ongoing training programme. The staff of the Early Settlers have been involved in this exercise. Elizabeth Hinds gave us valuable time with two conducted tours of the collection plus a 'behind the scenes' visit to storage areas and the photographic workshop. Angela Brenssell and Michael Findlay have also given us informative sessions in their areas of expertise. We look forward to hearing other staff member sharing their knowledge and appreciate the input and support they are willing to contribute to this programme.

It is anticipated that twenty minute Sunday afternoon tours will be in place by January 1992.

If you are interested in taking part in the guiding programme, please leave your name with Barbara at the museum. The programme will be run by Rosalie Clarke next year while Dianne is overseas, and another training programme will be set up in the new year.

VOLUNTEERS

THE MUSEUM OWES MUCH to its volunteers who work in all areas of the museum - reception, office, newsletter, display, Archives, Photographs, Costume and Domestic Collections - and each year we hold a gathering by way of a thank-you. This year the function was held in the Pioneer Hall on Thursday 31 October when over 60 volunteers gathered with staff members for refreshments and a brief update on new displays and forthcoming plans.

In her welcome, the Director conveyed the thanks and appreciation of all staff members to the volunteers for the tremendous input they make to the work of the museum, and then spoke briefly about the museum's development plans to refurbish the present building and acquire more space. Her thanks were echoed by Dr Somerville, Chairman of the OESM Board of Management, and by Mr Beardsmore, a Vice-president of the OESA. Mr Beardsmore also mentioned the toy collection, Miniature World, and the raffle which is underway to raise funds towards its purchase.

Michael Findlay, Curator Domestic and Technical Collections invited those present to move to the Portrait Gallery where he spoke about the new furniture and decorative art displays, and the valuable input from volunteers who had done much of the research into the history of the items.

This was an opportunity for volunteers to meet their counterparts who work in other areas of the museum, and whom they meet perhaps only at these annual functions.

NEW • EXHIBITIONS





A Social History of Hairdressing

CROWNING GLORY IS AN EXHIBITION FOCUSSING on the expression of personal style through hair fashions. By looking at hair styles from the period of early European settlement to the present day we can open a window onto how fashion and concepts of ideal appearance have affected our lives.

The exhibition features a number of wonderfully awful implements used by hairdressers and the home user to achieve the various popular styles described. Many visitors will be amazed to discover what their mothers went through to have a perm in the 1920s or what Grandfather used to keep his hair down. Suffering in the cause of fashion is nothing new. Neither is parental grief and distress at the appearances of their children. Mothers wept as their daughters bobbed their hair in the same way as fathers ground their teeth over their long haired sons. Individuals who stepped out of line were publicly mocked and mass fads swept the nation.

Crowning Glory opens on December 19 and runs until the end of February 1992.



ART DECO DUNEDIN

Dunedin is not easily associated with modern architecture and is often referred to as a Victorian city. Few vistitors to the city, however, could have failed to notice the remarkable Art Deco building next door to the OESM. When opened in 1939, the Railways Road Services Passenger Station was a striking example of a type of modern architecture which had developed in Europe and America during the previous two decades. Called variously 'Moderne', 'Modernistic' or 'Streamline', the style presented a fashionable interpretation of the more austere and intellectual architecture favoured by the avant garde. This decorated modernism was a welcome arrival in most New Zealand cities whose citizens often did not apply a high value to their architectural heritage and were actively looking forward to new buildings replacing the old. Even so, the Road Transport Building was a highly visable example of the new style and raised considerable comment. The General Manager of Railways in his opening address concurred that 'There might be some who thought the structure was somewhat ahead of the times' but felt that Dunedin may soon grow into its new building.

The Road Transport Building was designed Eric White of the Dunedin firm Miller and White who had earlier carried out the Dunedin headquarters of the Order of St John in a similar style. Miller had trained in London in the early 1920s and had worked briefly in San Francisco. Both Miller and his partner James Hodge White were associated with Edward Anscombe, an older although equally progressive architect who also worked in the art deco style. Anscombe was the architect for the 1925-6 Dunedin Exhibition and the 1940 Centennial Exhibition which was held in Wellington.

The 120m long street frontage is divided into garage and workshops indicated by the long horizontal slot windows and the public concourse and administration block behind the vertically ribbed three story facade. The building turns on its narrow triangular site with curved 'knuckles' through which buses enter and leave. The public concourse was decorated with West Coast green and Hamner pink marble walls highlighted with bases of Belgian black marble and a terrazzo floor. Art Deco bronze and chrome plated fixtures remain intact inside and ouside the building and a fine wall clock with stylised plated numerals retains centre place in the concourse. The garages are bare in keeping with their use but the building's reinforced concrete construction and steel roof trusses have resulted in an open and virtually uninterupted space which runs the entire length of the building and encloses a space of 3125 square metres.

Dunedin's architectural character is based on the variety of its buidings as well as their individual quality and is therefore as much of a 1930s city as a Victorian one. Few examples of the scale and richness of the Road Services Building exist in our other main centres to remind us of a brief but important era in New Zealand architecture.



M U S E U M • S H O P

CHRISTMAS FOR THE CHILDREN

In the ever popular "Thomas" series by the Rev. W Awdry:

THOMAS COMES TO BREAKFAST
Price to members $8.95
P & P .80

THOMAS'S CHRISTMAS PARTY
Price to members $8.95
P & P .80

THOMAS AND THE EVIL DIESEL
Price to members $8.95
P & P .80

THOMAS'S COUNTING BOOK
Price to members $9.85
P & P .80

THOMAS'S ABC
Price to members $9.85
P & P .80

THOMAS MAGIC STICKER FUN BOOK
Precut stickers to lick, stick and colour
Price to members $3.55
P & P .80

RIKI THE ROYAL ALBATROSS CHICK - Jane Thomson, illustrated by Annie Baird
Based on the true story of a Royal Albatross chick born in the colony on the Otago Peninsula. For children 5-10 years old.
Price to members $13.45
P & P .80

A PUKEKO IN A PONGA TREE - adapted by Kingi M Ihaka, illustrated by Dick Frizzell
New Zealand version of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Great fun.
Price to members $11.65
P & P .80

STOP PRESS. NEW BOOK

THE WRECK OF THE SURAT - George E Collins.On New Year's Eve 1873, the immigrant ship Surat hit rocks off Chasland's Mistake and later ran aground on what is now called Surat Beach, the passengers losing almost everything they had in the world.
Price to members $11.65
P & P .80

These are just a few examples of our stock - we have much, much more! Books, guides, Happy Hens, quality greeting cards, fridge magnets etc. etc. - if you are in Dunedin please come and browse, our receptionists will be very happy to assist.
We would suggest that you view our range of Graeme Withell and Alan Coppin photocards. We carry a large selection of these highly attractive cards at most reasonable prices as well as the new card, "Dunedin's Heritage" by Anton Glavin and Ruth Wilson featuring many of Dunedin's interesting buildings including our own.

Graeme Withell Photocards
Price to members $3.55

Alan Coppin Photocards
Price to members $2.65

Dunedin's Heritage
Price to members $2.50